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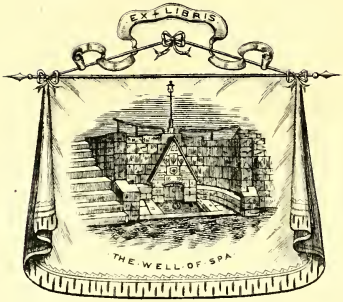

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HOUSE OF GORDON.

COCLARACHIE.

BY

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PREFATORY NOTE.

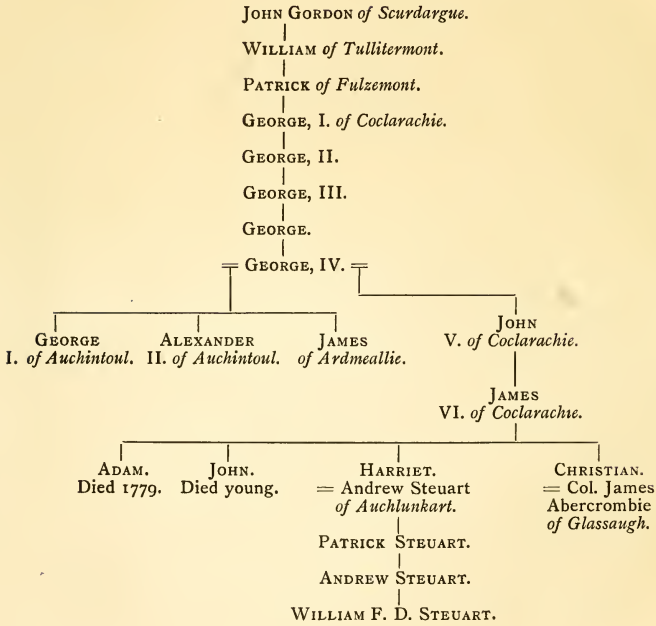
A GENEALOGICAL deduction of the Gordons of Coclarachie is given in the *Balbithan MS.* (pp. 51-3), and it is singularly accurate as far as it goes. This deduction is reproduced, with additions, in Temple's *Thanage of Fermartyn* (pp. 276-9). The early members are briefly noticed in Lord Huntly's *Records of Aboyne* (pp. 168, 210). The present accounts are drawn up according to the scheme of the general editor, Mr. J. M. Bulloch.

Mr. W. F. D. Steuart of Auchlunkart has kindly granted me free access to his charter chest, and also permission to publish the documents that form the Appendix. For the families of Auchintoul and Ardmeallie I have had the use of all the notes that Mr. Bulloch had collected regarding them, and have also received much aid from Dr. Cramond, Cullen. Assistance has also been readily given in various ways by Rev. James J. Calder, Clerk of Strathbogie Presbytery; Mr. J. G. Fleming, Solicitor, Keith; Mr. R. B. Gordon, Procurator Fiscal, Elgin; Mr. Muirhead, Commissioner for the Duke of Richmond and Gordon, Fochabers; Sir J. Balfour Paul, Lyon King of Arms; and Captain Wimberley, Inverness.

S. R.

BOHARM, *February*, 1902.

THE LAIRDS OF COCLARACHIE.



COCLARACHIE.

The lands of Coclarachie lie in the parish of Drumblade, Aberdeenshire.

On December 6, 1425, Alexander Stewart, Earl of Mar and Garioch, granted the half of the lands of Culclarochy and the sixth part of the lands of Gerry to Alexander Seton, Lord Gordon (*Antiq. Aberd. and Banff*, iii., 517-8). These lands were apparently given to found the chaplaincy of St. Mary of Coclarachie, for on March 20, 1557, Mr. David Carnegy, rector of Kinnoul, and possessor of the chaplaincy, feued the lands to Mr. Thomas Ker (*Ibid.*). On December 9, 1564, Thomas Ker of Coclarachie granted a letter of reversion of the lands of Begeshill in favour of William Leslie of Balquhain, and renewed it in November, 1566 (Leslie's *Family of Leslie*, iii., 44-5). Afterwards this half came into the possession of the Marquis of Huntly, and in 1617 was acquired by George Gordon.

The other half of Coclarachie was held in 1504 by Alexander Winton of Andat, in the parish of Tarves, for in a Head Court held at Aberdeen on January 9 of that year the Laird of Andat was found in default for his lands of Coclarachie (*Coll. Aberd. and Banff*, pp. 111-3). This half passed to his two daughters, Elizabeth and Margaret.

Elizabeth Winton was the second wife of George Gordon of Milton of Noth, and her only child, Jonet Gordon, succeeded to a fourth part of Coclarachie. Jonet Gordon married Patrick Forbes of Kinmuck, in the parish of Keithhall, and her son, Alexander Forbes, in 1560 sold his fourth part to his mother's half-brother, George Gordon of Blairdinnie.

Margaret Winton received sasine on a fourth part of Coclarachie in 1518 (*Exchequer Rolls*, xiv., 606). She married William Leslie, eldest son of George Leslie of Aikenway in the parish of Rothes, Morayshire, and grandson of George, first Earl of Rothes; and her son, George

Leslie, was served heir to her in a fourth part of Coclarachie on October 1, 1549 (*Retours*). On July 15, 1557, George Leslie obtained from the Marquis of Huntly the lands of Tocher in the parish of Rayne, Aberdeenshire, in exchange for his fourth part of Coclarachie (*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, December 12, 1557). This fourth part was acquired by George Gordon in 1587.

Coclarachie remained in possession of this family till 1767. The arms borne by Gordon of Coclarachie, not recorded, appear to have been: Azure, three boars' heads erased within a bordure or.

George Gordon, I. of Coclarachie.

(*Died before* 1534.)

George Gordon, of Milton of Noth in the parish of Rhynie, also designed "of Coclarachie" in right of his second wife, was a son of Patrick Gordon of Fulzemont. According to the *Balbithan MS.* (p. 51) he was the fifth son, but according to Lord Huntly's *Records of Aboyne* (p. 210) he was the fourth son.

"George Gordoun of Coclaraquhy" is one of the sureties nominated in a contract, dated at Elgin, November 9, 1527, between Elizabeth, Countess of Sutherland and her husband, Adam, Earl of Sutherland on one part and their son and apparent heir, Alexander, Master of Sutherland, on the other part; but he is not among the sureties who took oath, on November 17 following, in accordance with the contract (*Orig. Paroch. Scot.*, ii., 664-5). This absence may point to his death at that time: he was dead before May 18, 1534, when his daughter had sasine on Coclarachie.

George Gordon of Milton of Noth married (1) a daughter of Oliphant of Berridale, widow of Calder of Asloun, and by her had (*Rec. of Aboyne*, p. 210):—

1. George, afterwards of Coclarachie.
2. James.
3. Bessie. Probably this is the Bessie Gordon who married Laurence Leith of Kirkton of Rayne, from whom descend Leith-Hay of Leithhall (Burke's *Landed Gentry*—Leith-Hay).

He married (2) about 1512 Elizabeth Winton, daughter of Alexander Winton of Andat, who was heiress of a fourth part of Coclarachie, and who died in 1526. The only child of this marriage was

4. JONET, who as heir to her mother got sasine on a fourth part of Coclarachie, May 18, 1534 (*Appendix* I.). She married Patrick Forbes of Kinmuck (brother of Mr. Duncan Forbes of Monymusk), who appears, as portioner of Coclarachie, on a jury of appretiators of Middle Pitfodels, June 6, 1539 (*Reg. Mag. Sig.*, iii., 2133). On June 23, 1554, Alexander Forbes was served heir to Jonet Gordon, portioner of Coclarachie, in a fourth part of Coclarachie, etc. (*Retours*). By a charter, dated at Aberdeen, November 15, 1550, and confirmed under the Great Seal, December 1, 1554, Alexander Forbes son and heir of the late Patrick Forbes of Kynmukkis (with consent of Mr. Robert Lumisden, his curator) sold his fourth part of Coclarachie to his paternal uncle, Mr. Duncan Forbes of Monymusk, with reservation of his liferent of the same. This sale must either have been a formality during his minority, or have been afterwards cancelled, for on February 10, 1560, Alexander Forbes sold the lands to George Gordon of Blairdinnie.

GEORGE GORDON, II. OF COCLARACHIE.

(*Son of I.: executed* 1562.)

George Gordon of Blairdinnie, in the parish of Clatt, was the eldest son of George Gordon of Milton of Noth and Coclarachie. By a charter, dated at Aberdeen, November 16, 1556, and confirmed under the Great Seal, August 13, 1586, William, Bishop of Aberdeen, feued to George Gordoun of Blairdynnie, "the hauch of Bogy" in the parish of Clatt. On February 7, 1560, George Gordon bought the fourth part of Coclarachie that belonged to Alexander Forbes, the son of his half-sister, and he got sasine thereon on February 10 following, being described in the instrument of sasine (*Appendix* II.) as "Georgius Gordoun hereditarius de Blairendenny". He was taken prisoner at the battle of Corrichie in October, and was executed at Aberdeen on November 2, 1562, at the same time as Sir John Gordon, second son of the Marquis of Huntly (*Balbithan MS.*, p. 52; Macfarlane's *Genealogical Collections*, i., 237).

He married a daughter of John Gordon of Tilphoudie, who was

second son of Adam Gordon of Aboyne and his wife Elizabeth, Countess of Sutherland, and by her had :—

1. GEORGE, his successor (*Rec. of Aboyne*, pp. 42, 210).
2. BESSIE (Temple's *Fermartyn*, p. 277).

GEORGE GORDON, III. OF COCLARACHIE.

(*Son of II.: died* 1633.)

George Gordon, III. of Coclarachie, was a minor at the time of his father's forfeiture and execution, but was included in the remission for Corrichie, granted February 26, 1567 (*Spalding Club Misc.*, iv., 155). On November 20, 1587, he bought from the Earl of Huntly a fourth part of Coclarachie (*Appendix* III.). Having joined the Earl of Huntly and having been present at the Battle of Glenlivet in October, 1594, he was again forfeited, and did not obtain remission till April 2, 1603 (*Spald. Club Misc.*, iv., 159). On March 16, 1615, he obtained confirmation under the Great Seal of the charter of February 7, 1560, by which his father had acquired from Alexander Forbes a fourth part of Coclarachie, it being explained that the delay in obtaining confirmation had been caused by his father's death soon after the purchase and his own minority at the time of his father's death. Having resigned the fourth part purchased in 1587, he received from the Marquis of Huntly on May 21, 1617, a charter on the three fourth parts of Coclarachie, redeemable on payment of 6,000 merks (*Appendix* IV.). He thus obtained the whole of Coclarachie, which remained in possession of his descendants till 1767. This laird also acquired other lands in Aberdeenshire.

1582.—He is said in *Records of Aboyne*, p. 168, to have been made a burgess of Aberdeen in May, 1582, along with other followers of Huntly. This is probably founded on the extract in *Spald. Club Misc.*, v. 52-3, where the entry "Ge. Gordoun of Clockrachy" occurs, but in *New Spald. Club Misc.*, i., 77, the entry is given as "Go. Gordoun of Clochrathn".

1590. *August* 8.—He found James Gordoun of Knokespik cautioner for him that James and George Leslies in Tailyeauch shall be harmless of him (*Privy Council Register*).

1591. *July* 23.—Bond of caution of date July 17, for £1,000, by him for John Lumsden of Cuscheny that he will not harm James Robertson in Westir Lochell. John Lumsden of Cuscheny grants a bond of same date and for same amount for

William Strachan of Glenkindie that he will not harm the same James Robertson (*Ibid.*).

November 11.—He was witness of a notarial instrument executed at Lesmoir (*Rec. of Aboyne*, p. 170).

1593. *March* 3.—He was surety in 1,000 marks for John Gordoun of Auchannachie that he should do nothing in hurt of his Majesty's government nor take part with George, Earl of Huntly, etc. (*Privy Council Register*).

1594. *June* 12.—He was charged to appear before the King and Council to answer concerning "persute and invasioun of his Majesties declairit tratouris, rebellious and unnaturall subjectis, treasonable practizaris and conspiratouris aganis the trew religioun presentlie professit within this realme, his Majesties persone and estate and libertie of this countrey". Failing to appear on July 11, he was then denounced rebel (*Ibid.*).

1600.—He was tenant of Huntly's lands of Learge in Cabrach (*Spald. Club Misc.*, iv., 281).

1602.—He and Bessie Duncan, his spouse, had sasine on the third part of lands of Corbanchrie, Overtouris, Cokstoun, Jempsone, Duncanstown and New Merdrum, Balnakellie, etc. (*Records of Aboyne*, p. 168). On 17th May there is sasine on the half lands of Merdrum and Balnakellie in favour of him and Bessie Duncan, his spouse, in liferent, and to Alexander and George Gordon, their sons, heritably (*Ibid.*, p. 168).

1603.—By a charter dated at Huntlie, May 23, 1603, and confirmed under the Great Seal, January 12, 1604, George, Marquis of Huntly, sold to him Birkinhill, Fidlerseat, Bordelseat, and Kirkhill in the parish of Gartly, redeemable on payment of 6,000 merks.

1607.—He and George Gordoun, his son and heir apparent, were witnesses to a charter, dated at Grantulie and Buckie, April 28 and May 13, 1607, and confirmed under the Great Seal, July 4, 1608, by which Alexander Gordoun of Baldornie, George Gordoun, his elder son and heir apparent, and John Gordoun of Buckie for his interest, sold to Abraham Forbes of Blackton the lands of Waster Foullis, Craigmylne and Eister Lochill in the lordship of Monymusk.

To him was directed the precept of sasine in the charter, dated at Aberdeen, May 27, 1607, and confirmed under the Great Seal, February 14, 1609, by which Arthur, Lord Forbes feued to Robert (Forbes), commendator of Monymusk, the lands of Tilliryauche and Tullauchvayneis in the barony of Cluny.

He was a witness of mutual bonds of caution, dated at Aberdeen, December 11, 1607, by Robert (Forbes), commendator of Monymusk, and Abraham Forbes of Blacktoun that they would not harm Alexander Irving of Drum (*Privy Council Register*, viii., 636-7).

1608. *December* 10.—He got sasine on Tailzeoche (*Sasines*).

1612.—By a charter dated at Aberdeen, June 4, and confirmed under the Great Seal, July 28, Francis, Earl of Errol sold to him the town and lands of Bomatuithill, the shady half of the Maynis of Slaynis, the town and lands of Auchmabo, the town

and lands of Brogane, with the mill of Brogane in the parish of Slains. George Gordoun, apparent of Coclerauchie, was one of the witnesses.

July 28.—He was one of those to whom a commission was granted to apprehend and try according to law certain persons of the names of Gordon and Grant in Upper Banffshire, "brokin men, committing oppin reiffis, privie stouthis, slauchteris, mutilationis, soirningis and utheris insolencyis" upon the good subjects in the adjacent parts (*Privy Council Register*).

1617.—"George Gordone of Blerindinie and Talzeauche" was one of the feuars of the Bishopric of Aberdeen within the parish of Clatt (Munro's *Old Aberdeen*, i., 57).

1619. *May* 13.—He and his sons, Alexander and Mr. William, gave their consent to the sale, by James Ogilvy of Auchleuchries and Marjorie Gordoun, his spouse, of Waster Auchleuchries (Gen. Pat. Gordon's *Diary*, p. 205).

1629. *May* 17.—With consent of his sons, Alexander Gordon of Merdrum and Mr. William Gordon, doctor of medicine, he made provision for his grandson, George Gordon, in view of his marriage with Grissell Seton, daughter of Alexander Seton of Pitmedden (*Appendix* VI.).

George Gordon, III. of Coclarachie, married Bessie, daughter of James Duncan of Merdrum. Bessie Duncan survived her husband. In a court held at Aberdeen, February 20, 1634, by William Cordoner, sheriff-depute, "Bessie Duncan, relict of umquhill George Gordone of Coclarachie, declarit be Doctor Williame Gordoun, doctor of medicine, her sone, that shoe hes hir lyfrent of the third pairt landis of Coclarachie, wedset of the Merques of Huntlie for the soume of 6,000 merkis. Quhairof thair is to be defaisit that the said Bessie is restand to Marjorie Duncan, hir sister, the yeirlie annuelrent of 2,000 merkis, with the quhilk yeirlie annuelrent the wodsett is granted and no uther wayes; and that shoe is restand to Alexander, Mr. Hew and Williame Gordones, hir children, Mr. Robert Bisset of Lesindrum, George Gordoun of Raynie, and Williame Seatoun of Hadow, equallie amongs them, 600 merkis; to George Gordoun of Coclarachie, 500 merkis" (*Spald. Club Misc.*, iii., 123). In 1636 "the guidwyff of Coclarachie" was residing in Old Aberdeen (Munro's *Old Aberdeen*, i., 354); and probably the charter of liferent to Grissell Seton on December 15, 1643 (*Appendix* VII.), was granted shortly after Bessie Duncan's death. This laird had four sons and four daughters.

1. George, the eldest son, died before his father. He is mentioned in notices of his father, 1602, 1607, 1612; and was dead before June 18, 1618, when his widow was wife of John Gordon, younger of Craig

(*Reg. Mag. Sig.*). He married Jean, daughter of James Gordon of Lesmoir, and by her had:—

(1) GEORGE, IV. of Coclarachie.

(2) JAMES (*Balb. MS.*, p. 52); or ALEXANDER (Wimberley's *Gordons of Lesmoir* (1893), p. 109, from Prony MS.; also Theodore Gordon's MS.).

2. ALEXANDER, of Merdrum. On May 17, 1602, he got sasine on the half lands of Merdrum and Balnakellie. See notices of his father, 1602, 1619, 1629. On December 18, 1634, he was one of those who were ordered to be summoned as witnesses regarding the disorders that had arisen in the north since the burning of the house of Frendraught (Spalding's *Trubles*, i., 423). On February 22, 1637, he gave evidence regarding certain accusations made by George Gordon of Rhynie against Mr. Henry Ross, minister of Rhynie. On October 20, 1638, he was chosen by the Presbytery of Strathbogie ruling elder to the General Assembly, and the same presbytery, on April 24, 1644, chose "for Rhynie and Essie, Alexander Gordon of Merdrum" as one of a "list of able men from euerie parochin for to be insert in a commission for sorcereris and charmeris". On July 26, 1646, he was one of those who were appointed to "estimat and appreciat" the manse of Rhynie. He was one of the elders of Rhynie who were present at a presbyterial visitation of that parish on August 13, 1651 (*Presbytery Book of Strathbogie*, pp. 13, 19, 53, 67, 207). He married and had, at least, one son and two daughters:—

(1) JAMES, of Merdrum. James Gordon, younger of Merdrum, appeared before the Presbytery of Strathbogie on February 23, 1648, and confessed his accession to the late rebellion, and was ordained to "satisfy" in his parish church; but on May 17 the minister of Rhynie reported that "James Gordon of Merdrum had fled the boundis for the tyme". In 1651 the presbytery summoned before them all delinquents who had not then obeyed their injunctions, and on October 29 "compeired James Gordon in Merdrum . . . and being humbled in sackcloathe was accused of quadrilaps in fornicatioune, deserting his repentance, contempt of the Session of Rynie, drunkenness, relapsing into rebellion with James Grahame, and the setting lightly of his father and his admonitiounes. Confessed all . . . was ordained to satisfie the discipline of Rynie in sackcloath thrie quarters of a yeare, for purgeing away the long continued scandell of his former ill spent life in maner abouewritten . . . promised obedience therunto in euerie thing according to his abilitie" (*Ibid.*, pp. 85, 89, 213). He had sasine on

Merdrum in 1654 (*Sasines*). He married and had three daughters, Margaret, Jean, and Marie, who had sasine on New Merdrum in January, 1669 (Cadenhead's *Family of Cadenhead*, p. 36).

(2) BARBARA, who married (1) Orem, and (2) on December 24, 1663, William Lunan in Dallob, son of the Rev. Alexander Lunan, minister first of Monymusk and afterwards of Kintore. By her second husband she had a son, William, and a daughter, Anna, both of whom married and had issue (*Ibid.*, pp. 32-6).

(3) ELSPET, who married William Gordon of Sockach (*Balb. MS.*, p. 45).

3. HEW. He was witness of a bond of caution dated at Straloch July 16, 1621 (*Privy Council Reg.*, July 25, 1621). By a charter, March 9, 1633, James Ogilvy of Auchleuchries, proprietor of the lands afternamed, and Hew Gordon, lawful son to George Gordon of Coclarachie, with consent of Marjorie Gordon, spouse of the said James Ogilvy, granted certain parts of Auchleuchries to Marie Ogilvy, daughter of said James Ogilvy, and future spouse of John Gordon, third son of the deceased Patrick Gordon of Nethermuir, and to their heirs. By a charter, August 19, 1633, Sir Alexander Hay of Delgatie, immediate superior of the lands afternamed, granted to Hew Gordon, lawful son to the deceased George Gordon of Coclarachie, the lands of Easter and Wester Auchleuchries (Gen. Pat. Gordon's *Diary*, p. 207). [March, 1645] "as Montross is in Angouss, the Viscount of Frendracht, the Lord Fraser, the Maister of Forbes, thair freindis and folloueris leaves thair houssis and cumis to the feildis, and beginis to oppress whome they culd overtak. And first thay mell vpone the hie way with Hew Gordoun, sone to George Gordoun of Coklarachie" (Spalding's *Trubles*, ii., 462).

4. WILLIAM, A.M., doctor of medicine. See notices of his father, 1619, 1629, and of his mother. He may have been the William Gordon, A.M., who was Mediciner at King's College, Aberdeen, from 1632 to 1640; but no direct proof has yet been discovered.

5. MARJORIE. She married (1604) James Ogilvy, younger of Blerack, and had a daughter, Marie, who married (1633) John Gordon of Auchleuchries and had issue, of whom the second son, Patrick, became a General in the Russian army, and had, by his first wife, a daughter, Katherine Elizabeth, who married Major-General Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul.

6. *Daughter*, who married Mr. Robert Bisset of Lessendrum, and had issue.

7. *Daughter*, who married William Seton of Hadow.

8. CHRISTIAN, who married George Gordon of Rhynie and Sheelagreen, and had issue.

George Gordon, III. of Coclarachie, died in 1633 between March 9 and August 19, as is shown by the charters referred to under notice of his third son, Hew.

George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie.

(*Grandson of III.:-died* 1663.)

This laird succeeded his grandfather in 1633, though he and his first wife had received, on the occasion of their marriage in 1629, a charter on Coclarachie and also on Overblairton and Pettens in the parish of Belhelvie, Aberdeenshire (*Appendix* VI.). On October 6, 1643, he sold the lands in Belhelvie to George Davidson, burgess of Aberdeen (*Scottish Notes and Queries*, ii., 102); but he also acquired lands in the parish of Marnoch, Banffshire, including the barony of Auchintoul.

1635.—He was one of those to whom a commission was granted on March 19, 1635, to apprehend certain rebels and "brokin men" who were oppressing the Laird of Frendraught and his tenants; and on August 7, 1635, he was one of those who were charged to appear personally before the Lords of Council and to find sufficient caution "for observing his majestie's peace and keeping of good rule and quyetnes in the countrie under paine of rebellion" (Spalding's *Trubles*, i., 426, 429).

1643.—He was one of "the Committee appointed by the Estaitis for the taxatione and loane of moneyes within the shirefdome of Abirdein," which met at Aberdeen on October 3, 1643, and on that day he, Sir Robert Gordone of Straloch and George Gordone of Knockaspock, were appointed a sub-committee for the district of the Presbytery of Strathbogie. He was also present at meetings of the Committee on October 4, 1643, and January 6, 1644 (*Spald. Club Misc.*, iii., 143-7).

He married (1) in May, 1629, Grissell, daughter of Alexander Seton of Pitmedden, by whom he "begat sons and daughters" (*Balb. MS.*, p. 52):—

1. George of Auchintoul. See p. 17.
2. Alexander of Auchintoul. See p. 18.
3. James of Ardmeallie. See p. 27.
4. Marie, who married in March, 1659, John Grant in Lettoch, eldest son of James Grant of Auchernick (*Elgin Commissary MS. Records*, 26th June, 1684).

Grissell Seton died in 1644, and George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie, married (2) in December, 1645, Elizabeth, daughter of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, and widow of William Meldrum of Haltoun of Auchterless

(*Appendix* VIII.). Elizabeth Fraser had, by her first marriage, an only child, Isabella Meldrum, who married in May, 1664, William, eldest son of John Forbes of Asloun (*Appendix* IX.). The children of the second marriage were :—

5. JOHN, who succeeded to Coclarachie.
6. CHARLES.
7. JANET, who in September, 1696, became the second wife of Alexander Leslie of Little Wartle and had no issue (*Appendix* XI.).

George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie, died in 1663. On August 5, 1664, a warrant was passed under the Great Seal appointing Elizabeth Fraser tutrix-dative to John, Charles and Jonet Gordon, her lawful children, mention being made therein that a year and a day had elapsed since the death of George Gordon of Coclarachie (*Auchlunkart Charter Chest*).

JOHN GORDON, V. OF COCLARACHIE.

(*Son of IV. : died* 1714.)

John Gordon, V. of Coclarachie, the eldest son by the second marriage of George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie, was a minor when his father died in 1663, and received sasine on Coclarachie in February, 1670. He was a student at King's College, Aberdeen, in 1668 (*Fasti Aberd.*, p. 487). The valuation of Coclarachie in 1696 was £330 6s. 8d. Scots (*Poll Book*, ii., 271).

He married in December, 1679, Anna, daughter of Sir James Baird of Auchmedden (*Appendix* X.), by whom he had :—

1. GEORGE, } alive in 1696 (*Poll Book*, ii., 271), but died before their father.
2. ALEXANDER, }
3. JAMES, who succeeded to Coclarachie.
4. CHRISTIAN.
5. ANNA, who married in June, 1712, James Lunan, eldest son of Alexander Lunan, M.A., minister of Daviot, Aberdeenshire (*Appendix* XII.).
6. ISOBEL.

John Gordon, V. of Coclarachie, died on July 8, 1714.

James Gordon, VI. of Coclarachie.

(*Son of V.: died* 1771.)

James Gordon, VI. of Coclarachie, was served heir to his father on July 14, 1721 (*Index of Heirs*), and a Crown precept of sasine on a fourth part of Coclarachie was issued in his favour on July 24, 1721 (*Auchlunkart Charter Chest*). He was elected a burgess of Banff on September 30, 1727 (*Burgess Ticket* in Auchlunkart Charter Chest).

On February 26, 1767, he sold the lands of Coclarachie to Alexander, Duke of Gordon, but sasine was not taken till May 1, 1771 (*Index of Charters* in Gordon Castle).

He married, in 1730, Jane, daughter of Robert Bisset of Lessendrum, by whom he had:—

1. Adam, who died in 1779, his sisters being served heir to him on August 4, 1779 (*Index of Heirs*).
2. John, who was a student at Marischal College, Aberdeen, 1772-73 (Anderson's *Fasti Acad. Marisc.*, ii., 344), and died before his brother.
3. Harriet, who married in December, 1778, Andrew Steuart of Auchlunkart, in the parish of Boharm, Banffshire, second son of George Steuart of Tanachie in the parish of Rathven, Banffshire. He was a Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh, being admitted on July 15, 1763, and he was elected a burgess of guild of Aberdeen in 1767. In 1771 he bought the lands of Auchlunkart. Andrew Steuart died at Peterhead on October 10, 1798, and his widow died at Auchlunkart on September 10, 1814. Their children were:—
   (1) Patrick Steuart, of Auchlunkart, succeeded also to Tanachie on the death of his cousin, George Steuart. At Edinburgh, on June 21, 1800, he was admitted one of H.M. Royal Company of Archers (*Auchlunkart Charter Chest*). He married on November 9, 1820, Rachel Missing Duff, daughter of Lachlan Gordon of Park, by whom he had an only son, Andrew Steuart. He died at Paris on March 25, 1844, aged 64, and his widow died at Auchlunkart on May 8, 1872, aged 84.
      i. Andrew Steuart, of Auchlunkart and Tanachie, B.A. Cantab., 1844 (First Class in Classical Tripos, and a Senior Optime), M.A., 1848, was M.P. for Cambridge, 1857-62. In 1885 he resigned Auchlunkart and Tanachie in favour of his only

surviving son, William. He married, in 1847, his cousin, Elizabeth Georgiana Graham, third daughter of Thomas Duff Gordon of Park, and by her (who died on March 28, 1888) he had:—

(i) PATRICK STEUART, died in infancy.

(ii) GEORGE ALEXANDER STEUART, scholar of Winchester College; died June, 1865.

(iii) THOMAS GORDON STEUART, died young.

(iv) WILLIAM FRANCIS DAY STEUART, now of Auchlunkart and Tanachie, married in 1899 Florence, daughter of S. Hammond, Woolwich.

(v) HARRIET ELIZABETH STEUART, married in 1871 General William Gordon, C.I.E., youngest son of the late Adam Gordon of Cairnfield, Banffshire, and has issue.

(vi) RACHEL ELEANOR STEUART, married, in 1880, Hastings A. Clarke, Achareidh, Nairn, and has issue.

(vii) LOUISA MARY STEUART.

(viii) MABEL STEUART, married, in 1894, C. A. Seton, Preston, Linlithgow, and has issue.

(2) JAMES STEUART, Captain, Royal Scots, killed at St. Sebastian on September 2, 1813, unmarried. "Captain Steuart's brilliant but short career was terminated in front of the castle of St. Sebastian while reconnoitring along with Major-General Hay, to whom he was aide-de-camp; he received a musket ball in the head and survived about an hour, leaving a character most honourable and as an officer most distinguished" (*Scots Mag.*, lxxv., 799).

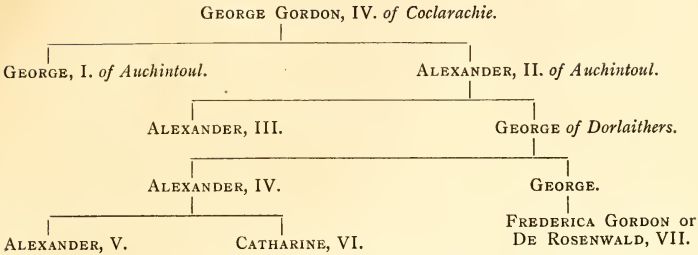
(3) GEORGE STEUART, Midshipman, R.N., died in February, 1820, unmarried.

(4) MARY STEUART, who married David Monypenny (Lord Pitmilly), one of the Senators of the College of Justice, and died on December 2, 1808, without issue.

4. CHARLOTTE, who married Col. James Abercrombie, of Glassaugh, Banffshire, son of General James Abercrombie of Glassaugh, but had no issue.

James Gordon, VI. and last of Coclarachie, died at Aberdeen on November 29, 1771, in the 77th year of his age (*Aberdeen Journal*).

THE GORDONS OF AUCHINTOUL.



The arms of Gordon of Auchintoul as recorded in 1765 are: Azure, a mullet between three boars' heads couped or within a bordure of the last. Crest: a demi-boar proper. Motto: "Bydand".

George Gordon, I. of Auchintoul.

(*Son of George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie: died* 1661.)

George Gordon, I. of Auchintoul, was the eldest son, by the first marriage, of George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie.

On July 8, 1646, the King granted the lands and barony of Auchintoul, in the parish of Marnoch, Banffshire, to George Gordon of Coclarachie, in liferent, and to George Gordon, his eldest son, in fee, and to the heirs of the body of George Gordon, junior; whom failing, to Alexander Gordon, second son of George Gordon, senior, and his heirs (*Reg. Mag. Sig.*).

The "noblemen, gentlemen and heretouris" of Aberdeenshire held meetings at Aberdeen on November 11 and December 2, 1659, at the request of General Monk, and elected commissioners to meet him and

confer with him on the affairs of the time. Among those present at the first meeting was the "Laird of Auchintoull younger," and at the second meeting "Auchintoull Gordoune" (*Rec. of Aboyne*, pp. 319, 323).

He died before his father in 1661, unmarried, and his next brother, Alexander, was served heir to him on July 24, 1661 (*Retours*).

Alexander Gordon, II. of Auchintoul, Lord Auchintoul.

(*Brother of I.: died* 1710.)

On the death of George Gordon, I. of Auchintoul, his brother german, Alexander Gordon, succeeded to Auchintoul in accordance with the provisions of the charter of July 8, 1646.

1669.—At a meeting of the Synod of Moray in April, 1669, the Presbytery of Strathbogie gave in a report regarding the papists within their bounds, among whom was Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul; and the Synod enjoined the Presbytery to begin a process against him. The same injunction was renewed at next meeting of Synod in October following. In April, 1670, the Presbytery reported to the Synod that Auchintoul was under process. At subsequent meetings of Synod the same report was given in till April, 1672, when the Presbytery reported that he had been called before the Privy Council, and that consequently the process against him was laid aside (*Synod of Moray MS. Records*).

1678. *July.*—Infeftment was given in the town and lands of Auchintoul and others to Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul in liferent and to Alexander Gordon, his eldest lawful son, in fee; the liferent of Isobel Gray, spouse of the said Alexander Gordon, elder, being reserved, and the foresaid lands being erected into a barony to be called the barony of Auchintoul (*Geneal. Mag.*, 1901, p. 361).

1684. *January* 8.—He was admitted an advocate (Brunton and Haig's *Senators of the College of Justice*, p. 431).

1687. *February* 2.—He witnessed a deed executed at Delmanie, in the parish of Boharm, Banffshire (*Auchlunkart Charter Chest*).

1688. *June* 15.—He was admitted an Ordinary Lord of Session (Fountainhall's *Decisions*, i., 506). As the Revolution took place soon after, he held office only for a few months, but continued to be known as Lord Auchintoul.

1704. *May* 15.—The list of papists given in to the presbytery of Strathbogie by the minister of Marnoch includes "Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul, sometym Senator in the College of Justice, baptized and brought up in the reformed protestant religion which he professed in his youth till he went to France, since which time he has been a professed papist; his children all born and bred in the Romish religion, and forisfamiliat; there are only two daughters with him, viz., Mary and Margaret, unmarried, both papists" (Blakhal's *Narration*, Spalding Club, p. xxxvi.).

1709. *February* 10.—William Duff of Braco on February 21, 1707, sent his servant to the house of Auchintoul, who counted down "on the table in specie current at the time" the amount of the principal and interest of a debt of £1,000 Scots due upon bond by his deceased father to Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul; and upon Auchintoul's declining to accept the money, the servant consigned it in the hands of Grant of Ruddry and protested that Braco was free of interest in time coming. Among other reasons for declining to accept the money at that time, Auchintoul alleged that "there was a rumour, then dispersed and which ultimately fell out, that the money of Scotland was to be called in and made conform to that of England in terms of the Union, and he apprehended that Braco was taking advantage to palm upon him the loss" that would thereby arise, and which he estimated would amount to about 500 merks. The Lords of Session found that Auchintoul should have accepted the money when it was offered and that the loss must fall on him (Fountainhall's *Decisions*, ii., 490).

Lord Auchintoul married Isobel Gray, "daughter of Gray of Braik and niece of Lord Gray" (*Life*, prefixed to Major-Gen. Gordon's *Peter the Great*), "with whom he begat three sons and daughters" (*Balb. MS.*, p. 52).

1. ALEXANDER, succeeded to Auchintoul.
2. GEORGE, was in Monedie in 1704, when he and his wife, Barbara McKenzie, with "but one chyld, on the breast," were returned as among the papists in the parish of Marnoch (Blakhal's *Narration*, p. xxxvi.), was in Monedie in 1709 (*Strathbogie Presb. Rec.*), and was afterwards of Dorlaithers, in the parish of Turriff, Aberdeenshire. He perished at sea in 1716 on his way to Holland (*Balb. MS.*, p. 52). He married Barbara, daughter of Alexander Mackenzie of Ardloch, and niece of Sir George Mackenzie, first Earl of Cromartie (Fraser's *Earls of Cromartie*, ii., 53), and by her (who died on May 26, 1762, aged 80) he had "three sons and a daughter" (*Balb. MS.*, p. 52). The eldest son, Alexander Gordon of Dorlaithers, succeeded his uncle in Auchintoul. The second son, George, who died in July, 1762 (*Marnoch Sess. Rec.*), married, and had two daughters: the elder, Frederica, married Quieten de Rosenwald in the service of the Emperor of Germany, and in 1798 succeeded her cousin, Catharine Gordon, in Auchintoul; the younger, Christine, married Theiner de Retheim, Major in the German army: and both were widows in 1798 (*Auchintoul Titles*).
3. JAMES, "third son to the Laird of Auchintoul, living in the house of Cairnborrow," was included in the list of papists given in to the presbytery of Strathbogie by the minister of Glass on May 11, 1704 (Blakhal's *Narration*, p. xxxvi.). He married (1) a daughter of Barclay of Cottcairn (*Balb. MS.*, p. 52), and she died under circumstances indicated in two letters printed in Fraser's *Earls of Cromartie* (ii., 51-3).

In one of the letters Sir George Mackenzie, first Earl of Cromartie, writing to John, Earl of Mar, on November 30, 1707, says: "This day one James Gordon, a sonne of the quondam Lord Auchintowl, had a persuit against Duff of Braco for comeing with 29 or 30 armed men to seaz the said James on account of a ryot committed by him on Alexander Alexander. Braco defended himself as being oblidged, as a baron, to seaz any committers of ryot, as also he had the shirrefs warrand to search and seaz the said James. The advocats for James alleadge this to be a gross ryot in Braco and ane infringment of our act of Habeas Corpus, &c. But unhappily, by Bracos clamorous irruption into the hous, his lady who was a while befor brought to bed did from the fright fall into a fever and dyed. Now that which is notable in this process is that Braco did raise a lybell against Gordon for raising so scandalous lybel against him and befor any procedur he pleaded that Gordon, the persuer, should also enter the pannell. . . . The Lords made Gordon also enter the pannel. . . . We are next day of court to hear them on the principall cause." The other letter is from Barbara Mackenzie, wife of George Gordon, to her uncle, Sir George Mackenzie, first Earl of Cromartie, and, though not dated, was evidently written a short time before the Earl's own letter.

My Lord—I took the freedom to writ in sommer with my husbands brother to your Lordship, who owns himself much bound and oblidged to your favour and civility, and I no less, who flatter myself with the fancy that a share of them were on my account, for which I render your Lordship my cordiall thanks, and intreats your protection and friendship to him in an action he has befor your Lordship wherin he pursues Braco for the death of his wife. I need not enter on the detail of the affair, you'll be sufficiently acquainted with it; but one thing I must say, the poor gentilman has but too great raison to pursue Braco in this affair, he having occasioned the death of a very good wife, my particular friend, their being no room left to doubt but his affrighting of her was certainly the occasion of her death, who was known befor that, particularly to myself, to be one of the strongest and healthfullest women in the countrey. My Lord, I must sollicit your favor and beg your justice not only in my brother-in-laws behalf but likewise in my own and all women who are bearing children, for how can we secure ourselves against the being affrighted out of our lives if this go unpunished? These people, with whom my brother has to do, boast so much of their wealth that they undervalue and despise men of meaner fortuns and think to do all and secur for themselves against all events with their money. But I have no fears on that head, being long agoe convinced of your Lordships judgement, integrity and justice. My

Lord Auchintoulle, who presents you with this, can inform you better than any man, having been witnesse to all the sad tragedie; and I'le assure you, my Lord, that nothing, no not his sons concern, will make him say any thing contrary to truth.

I'm always glaid to hear of your Lordships health, and wishes and prays for the continuance of it. My husband kisses your hands and longs to be known to you. My sister Mary do's the same but particularly, my Lord,

Your most obedient neece and humble servant,
BARBARA McKENZIE.

James Gordon married (2) Margaret Chalmers, daughter of a solicitor in Edinburgh, who survived him and died at Edinburgh on January 21, 1739, leaving two daughters (*Edinb. Commissariot*, Dec. 12, 1740).

(1) KATHERINE, died abroad, unmarried, in 1768 (*Edinb. Commissariot*, April 11, 1769).

(2) CLEMENTINA, married at Edinburgh in 1751 James Elphinston, and died at London in 1778. Elphinston was a native of Edinburgh, who removed to London in 1753 and set up an academy at Kensington, which he successfully carried on till 1776. He died at London on October 8, 1809, aged 88, being survived by his second wife, a daughter of the Rev. James Falconar and niece of Bishop Falconar. He was a friend of Johnson and other prominent literary men of his time, and was himself the author of several educational works (*Gent.'s Mag.*, Nov., 1809).

4. *Daughter*, married John Gordon of Letterfourie (*Balb. MS.*, p. 18).
5. MARY, } unmarried in 1704.
6. MARGARET, }

Lord Auchintoul died at Auchintoul in 1710.

ALEXANDER GORDON, III. OF AUCHINTOUL.

(*Son of II.: died* 1751).

The third laird, the eldest son of Lord Auchintoul, was the most distinguished member of the family. He was born at Auchintoul on December 27, 1669, and at the age of fourteen was sent to Paris to complete his education. During his stay in France he entered the French army and rose to the position of Captain. Returning to Scotland after the Revolution he did not find the position of public

affairs to his mind, and accordingly about 1692 he went to the continent and soon found his way to Russia. There he joined the Russian army, then under the command of his kinsman, General Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries. His first commission was obtained under exceptional circumstances. Not long after his arrival he was present at a marriage, where some young Russians, notwithstanding his remonstrances, persisted in speaking in contemptuous terms of all foreigners, and specially of Scots. The dispute proceeded from words to blows, but ended in Gordon's favour. A complaint having been lodged against Gordon, he was summoned before the Czar himself to answer for his conduct. Having heard Gordon's account of the incident, the Czar said—"Well, Sir, your accusers have done you justice in allowing that you beat six men; I also will do you justice"; and thereupon he gave him a Major's commission. In the same year Gordon was made a Lieutenant-Colonel, and three years later, in 1696, he had command of a regiment at the siege of Azof. When the Czar in 1700 gave liberty to the slaves on condition that they should become soldiers in his army, Col. Gordon specially distinguished himself by his skill in training the new men in the methods that had been adopted for reforming the army. At the disastrous defeat of the Russians by the Swedes at Narva on November 30, 1700, Col. Gordon became a prisoner of war, and remained in the hands of the Swedes for nearly seven years, having been released by exchange only in September, 1707. Immediately after his release he met the Czar at Pleskow, was ordered to accompany him to St. Petersburg, had frequent conferences with him there, and was raised to the rank of Brigadier. In the following year he was made a Major-General, in reward for the successes he had gained over the Polish troops. While in service in Poland in 1711 he heard of his father's death, and having obtained permission to leave the Russian service he returned to Scotland in the end of that year. He at once began to make several improvements on the house of Auchintoul, and he also enlarged his estate by the purchase, in 1712, of the lands of Laithers in the parish of Turriff, Aberdeenshire. On June 27, 1713, he was served heir general to his father (*Index of Heirs*).

In the rebellion of 1715 he took a prominent part. He attended the Earl of Mar's hunting-match at Braemar on August 27, and was also present at the meeting at Aboyne on September 9, at which it was

decided that the time had come to take up arms. Thereafter he was sent into the Highlands to raise the western clans, and soon collected a body of over 4,000 men. An attempt to surprise Fort William proved unsuccessful, and he then marched towards Inverary with a view to giving the Jacobites of Argyleshire an opportunity of joining his standard. After Gordon had been some time before Inverary, thereby preventing the Earl of Islay from taking action, the Earl of Islay in October "appointed Clanronald and Glengary to treat with Sir Duncan Campbell of Lochnell and Lieut.-Col. Campbell of Finab on the part of General Gordon, and it was agreed that Gordon and his people should abandon Argyleshire and compensate the poor people for their losses, and on the other hand that the Hanoverian troops should not molest the clans" (*Townshend MSS.*, Hist. MSS. Com. Reports, p. 164). Thereupon Gordon withdrew his men towards Perthshire, arriving at Drummond Castle about the beginning of November, and on November 10 joined the Earl of Mar's army. At the battle of Sheriffmuir on November 13 the centre of the first line, which proved victorious over the Government troops, was under the command of Gordon. When the Chevalier's army reached Montrose on February 3, 1716, it was placed under General Gordon and he received from the Chevalier a commission "to command the army till dispersed and to act and in all things contribute as much as in him lay to the common safety" of the men. The army reached Aberdeen on February 6, when General Gordon intimated the instructions he had received; and thereafter he conducted the march westwards to Badenoch, where the men who had not already withdrawn quietly dispersed. From the time that he received full command he conducted the march with such prudence and skill that, though closely pursued, he lost few of his men (Browne's *Hist. of the Highlands*, chaps. xii.-xiv.). Thereafter he retired to the Highlands and in 1717 escaped to France. In February, 1719, he was at Bordeaux in consultation with those who were planning the invasion of 1719, which ended in the defeat at Glenshiel on June 10, 1719. When it was reported that the Spanish ships were to sail from Passage on March 8, "General Gordon falling sick a few days after, it was found he could not make the voyage" (Oliphant's *Jacobite Lairds of Gask*, p. 452); but in April he, with forty other officers, left Bordeaux in two Swedish ships (Dickson's *Jacobite Attempt of* 1719, p. 247). He was

included among those attainted for treason, but by being misnamed Thomas in the Act of Attainder of 1716 he did not lose his estates.

Major-General Gordon did not return to Scotland till 1727, and thereafter he lived quietly the life of a country gentleman. On June 28, 1729, he received from James Mitchell of Auchanacie in the parish of Keith a discharge for 10,000 merks which had been borrowed on the security of the lands of Auchintoul (*Sasines*). He did not take any part in the rebellion of 1745, though the leaders of the rebel forces were in communication with him in February, 1746 (Oliphant's *Jacobite Lairds of Gask*, p. 182). The village of Aberchirder was founded by him in 1746, the first feus being given off in that year (Dr. Cramond in *Aberdeen Free Press*, September 24, 1901). In his later years he occupied his time in writing a life of the Emperor of Russia, under whom he had served, which was published in two octavo volumes at Aberdeen in 1755, with the title—*The History of Peter the Great, Emperor of Russia, to which is prefixed a short General History of the Country from the rise of that monarchy, and an account of the Author's life.*

Major-General Gordon married (1) in 1699 or 1700 Katherine Elizabeth, elder daughter of General Patrick Gordon of Auchleuchries, and widow of Colonel Strasburg of the Russian army, and by her (who died in December, 1739) he had several children who all died in infancy. He married (2) Margaret, eldest daughter of Sir Thomas Moncrief of that Ilk, by whom he had no issue. His widow died at Edinburgh on September 19, 1788 (*Scots Mag.*).

Major-General Gordon died at Auchintoul on July 31, 1751 (*Scots Mag.*), and was buried in the churchyard of Marnoch. Having no surviving issue he was succeeded in Auchintoul and Laithers by his nephew.

Alexander Gordon, IV. of Auchintoul.

(*Nephew of III.: died* 1763.)

Alexander Gordon of Dorlaithers, eldest son of George Gordon of Dorlaithers, was served heir general to his uncle, Major-General Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul, on July 24, 1753 (*Index of Heirs*). Alexander Gordon of Dorlaithers joined the rebels as a volunteer in 1745,

and in 1746 the rental of Dorlaithers was said to be £60 sterling, with a mansion house in "pretty good condition" (*List of Rebels*, Scot. Hist. Soc., pp. 30, 312).

He married Helen, second daughter of Alexander Irvine of Drum, and by her (who died on December 6, 1764, aged 64) he had a son, Alexander, and a daughter, Catharine, who both succeeded to Auchintoul.

The fourth laird died on June 2, 1763, aged 58 (Jervise's *Epitaphs*, ii., 224).

Alexander Gordon, V. of Auchintoul.

(*Son of IV.: died* 1768.)

Alexander Gordon, V. of Auchintoul, succeeded his father in 1763. He was an officer in the rebel army of 1745 (*List of Rebels*, Scot. Hist. Soc., p. 30); and was in France in 1748, when he received from the King of France a gratuity of 800 livres (Browne's *Hist. of the Highlands*, Stuart Papers, No. cxxiv.). From John Abernethie he bought the town and lands of Corskie in the parish of Marnoch and had sasine thereon on May 15, 1764 (*Sasines*). He died unmarried on March 30, 1768.

Catharine Gordon, VI. of Auchintoul.

(*Daughter of IV.: died* 1797.)

Catharine Gordon was served heir to her brother, Alexander Gordon of Auchintoul, on August 12, 1768 (*Index of Heirs*). On September 19, 1772, sasine was granted to Lord Adam Gordon of Prestonhall in liferent and Miss Katherine Gordon of Auchintoul in fee upon the barony of Auchintoul; and on September 23, 1772, sasine was granted to James Irvine of Kingcaussie in liferent and Katherine Gordon of Auchintoul in fee upon the lands of Mid Culvie and others in Marnoch (*Sasines*). She died unmarried in June, 1797, and was succeeded by her cousin.

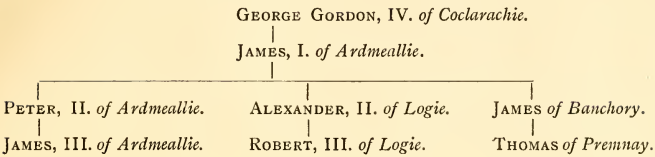
Frederica Gordon or De Rosenwald, VII. of Auchintoul.

(*Cousin of VI.*)

Frederica Gordon, widow of Quieten de Rosenwald, was served heir of provision special to her cousin, Catharine Gordon of Auchintoul,

in the barony of Auchintoul and the lands of Laithers on July 12, 1798 (*Index of Heirs*), and that year sold the lands to John Morison, afterwards of Bognie. On May 10, 1799, Christine Gordon, widow of Theiner de Retheim, Major in the service of the Emperor of Germany, resigned her half of the lands of Corskie in favour of her sister, Frederica Gordon, widow of Quieten de Rosenwald in the service of the Emperor of Germany; and on June 17 Madame de Rosenwald sold the whole lands of Corskie to John Morison of Auchintoul (*Auchintoul Titles*). According to tradition, the weather of the first winter that Madame de Rosenwald and her sister spent in Scotland after the death of their cousin was so severe that they resolved to return to Germany; but the vessel in which they sailed was never heard of again and was believed to have foundered in a storm (*Banffshire Journal*, July 30, 1889).

THE GORDONS OF ARDMEALLIE.



The arms of Gordon of Ardmeallie as recorded in 1721 are: Quarterly: 1st and 4th, Azure, three boars' heads erased or within a bordure of the last charged with eight crescents (referring to the Seton descent) gules; 2nd and 3rd (for Meldrum), Argent, a demi otter issuing out of a bar wavy sable. Crest: a boar's head erased or. Motto: "Byd bee".

James Gordon, I. of Ardmeallie.

(*Son of George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie; died* 1723.)

James Gordon, I. of Ardmeallie, was the third son, by the first marriage, of George Gordon, IV. of Coclarachie. He obtained possession of the lands of Ardmeallie in the parish of Marnoch, Banffshire, between 1672 and 1674.

The former proprietor was John Gordon. There is recorded in the *Elgin Commissary Records*, on October 24th, 1681, a discharge, "written be Johne Gordone of Ardmellie and subscribed at Patrick Brouns hous in the Raws of Strathbogie the fourth day of July 1672 befor thir witnesses James Innes in Ardmellie and Johne Gordone of Ardmellie," by which James Gordon, merchant in Aberdeen, having received "nyne bolls and thrie firlotts of oats with the fodder," discharged his uncle, Robert Gordon sometime in Ardmellie, of a bond, dated May 17, 1672, for "thrie scoir and seven merks". James Gordon of Ardmeallie was the husband of Isobel Meldrum on January 16, 1674, when she and her two sisters were served heirs portioner to Mr. John Hay of Logie, their uncle (*Retours*).

Through his wife James Gordon of Ardmeallie became in 1674 portioner of the lands of Logie in Crimond, Aberdeenshire. Mr. John Hay of Logie died 1673 and left these lands to the three daughters of his sister who had married Peter Meldrum of Laithers, and these three sisters were served heirs portioner on January 16, 1674. Mary, the eldest, had married David Stewart of Newton, commissary of Moray; Isobel, the second, had married James Gordon of Ardmeallie; and Elspet, the youngest, had married Mr. David Cumming, minister of Edinkillie in Morayshire. Before 1696 David Stewart and James Gordon had acquired Mrs. Cumming's right, as they alone appear as portioners of Logie in the Poll Book (ii., 48). David Stewart died in February, 1705, and his widow died in June, 1708 (*Index of Heirs*); and shortly after James Gordon acquired the whole of Logie.

1679. *December* 15.—He witnessed the marriage contract of his half-brother, John Gordon of Coclarachie (*Appendix* X.).

1696. *May* 5.—He had sasine on an annualrent of 6,600 merks out of Rattanach and Knachland in the parish of Rothiemay (*Sasines*).

September 26.—He gave his consent to the marriage of his half-sister, Janet Gordon (*Appendix*.XI.).

1700. *November* 7.—He was chancellor of the jury that condemned James Macpherson, the freebooter (Cramond's *Banff*, i., 101).

1708. *March* 15.—He was made an ensign in Aberdeen on account of the threatened invasion of the French (*Aberdeen Burgh Records*).

July 2.—His wife was served co-heir to her sister, Mary, widow of David Stewart, commissary of Moray (*Index of Heirs*).

James Gordon of Ardmeallie married Isobel, second daughter of Peter Meldrum of Laithers, by whom he had three sons and a daughter:—

1. PETER, succeeded to Ardmeallie.
2. ALEXANDER, succeeded to Logie in Crimond before 1721 (*Coll. Aberd. and Banff*, p. 426). In 1746 the laird of Logie was said to have a rental of £260 sterling, with "a fine house" (*List of Rebels*, Scot. Hist. Soc., p. 305). He married, and had a son and two daughters:—
   (1) ROBERT, succeeded to Logie. Robert Gordon, younger of Logie, joined the rebels at Edinburgh in 1745 (*Ibid.*, p. 91), and was one of those who were excepted by name from the general pardon of June, 1747 (*Gent.'s Mag.*, June, 1747; Chambers' *Rebellion of* 1745-6, 7th ed., p. 482). On October 4, 1752, he was served heir to his father (*Index of Heirs*).

He seems to have sold the lands of Logie. He married and had twin sons and a daughter.

i. JAMES, born at Milton of Drum in the parish of Peterculter, Aberdeenshire, was a farmer at Logie in Crimond and afterwards at Mains of Orrock in the parish of Belhelvie, and was distinguished for improvements in the cultivation of turnips. He died at Aberdeen on November 6, 1841, aged 89 (*Scottish Notes and Queries*, viii., 99; Smith's *Hist. of Aberdeenshire*, p. 428).

ii. ALEXANDER, twin brother of James, was a student in Arts at Marischal College, Aberdeen, 1763-67, and thereafter studied medicine at Aberdeen and Edinburgh. Having obtained a certificate from the Corporation of Surgeons, London, he entered the Royal Navy in 1780 as a surgeon's mate, was raised in 1782 to the rank of surgeon, and served on H.M.S. *Otter*. In 1785 he was placed on half-pay, and, after spending some time in London in the special study of midwifery, he went to Aberdeen and began general practice there. In 1786 he was appointed physician to Aberdeen Dispensary, and was annually re-elected till he left Aberdeen. While in Aberdeen he gave lectures on midwifery to medical students. In 1788 he received the degree of M.D. from Marischal College. In January, 1796, he relinquished his practice in Aberdeen, having been called on to resume active duty in the Navy; and in the same year he was admitted a Member of the Corporation of Surgeons, London. In 1799 he was invalided home, and went to Logie, the residence of his brother, where he died on October 19, aged 47. In 1795 he published a *Treatise on the Epidemic Puerperal Fever of Aberdeen*, which was reprinted at Edinburgh in 1822 as an appendix to Dr. William Campbell's *Treatise on the Epidemic Puerperal Fever of Edinburgh*, 1821-22. Dr. Campbell says in his preface (p. xii.)—"To the present work I have added the valuable essay of Dr. Gordon as an appendix, for it is now entirely out of print, although a publication of the first practical utility, and one the possession of which must be desirable to every man in practice, since to its author we are

unquestionably indebted for having been the first to prove that puerperal fever was not quite so untractable as the plague, but that it might on the contrary be successfully encountered". The value of the treatise was again recognised in 1849, when it was reprinted by the Sydenham Society (Anderson's *Fasti Acad. Marisc.*, ii., 131, 334; *Scottish Notes and Queries*, viii., 99; Biog. Note by his grandson, Dr. A. Harvey, in reprint of *Treatise on Fever*, 1849; Rodger's *Aberdeen Doctors*, pp. 46, 67). Dr. Gordon married in 1783 Elizabeth Harvey, and by her (who was born on February 21, 1760, and died on March 10, 1840) he had two daughters.

(i.) MARY, born on November 12, 1784, married Dr. Robert Harvey of Braco near Inverurie, and died on June 14, 1818, leaving, with other children, a son Alexander Harvey, A.M., M.D., Professor (1860-78) of Materia Medica in the University of Aberdeen.

(ii.) ELIZABETH, died on January 7, 1793, aged 6.

iii. *Daughter*, died, unmarried, at Banff on July 29, 1824, aged 70 (*Aberdeen Journal*).

(2) ISOBEL, died, unmarried, at Aberdeen in March, 1780 (*Aberdeen Commissariot*, Gen. Reg. House, July 20, 1780).

(3) ELIZABETH, died, unmarried, at Aberdeen on August 8, 1790 (*Aberdeen Journal*).

3. JAMES was a merchant in Aberdeen. He purchased in 1724 the lands of Banchory in the parish of Banchory-Devenick, Kincardineshire, but sold them in 1743 to Alexander Thomson, advocate in Aberdeen (*Coll. Aberd. and Banff*, p. 265; Henderson's *Banchory-Devenick*, p. 20); and in 1741 possessed lands in the parish of Premnay of the annual value of £766 13s. 4d. Scots (*Scottish Notes and Queries*, 2nd series, ii., 120). He died at Aberdeen on February 6, 1751, aged 67. "He acquired a considerable fortune by merchandize, with an irreproachable character; was universally esteemed for many valuable qualities and distinguished for his benevolent and peaceable disposition" (*Aberdeen Journal*). His brother, Alexander, had from him on loan £11,200 Scots (*Aberdeen Commissariot*, Gen. Reg. House, June 20, 1753). He married (1) Margaret, daughter of Robert Cumming of Birness, and had two daughters, who on May 7, 1740, were served

heirs portioner to their aunt, Ann Cumming, daughter of Robert Cumming of Birness (*Index of Heirs*)—

(1) ANN, who married in 1757 John Gordon of Craig, and died in 1774, leaving issue.

(2) ISOBEL.

He married (2) Mary, daughter of James Buchan of Auchmacoy, and had—

(3) THOMAS, who was served heir to his father on November 9, 1751 (*Index of Heirs*). He succeeded to his father's lands in the parish of Premnay; and also acquired Sheelagreen in the parish of Culsalmond, and in 1798 Heathcot in the parish of Maryculter (Henderson's *Lower Deeside*, p. 201). He died at Suffolk Street, London, W.C., on July 19, 1819, aged 73 (*Gent.'s Mag.*), and was succeeded by his sister, Mary. He bequeathed to the parish of Premnay £1,000 and to the parish of Culsalmond £600, the interest of which sums is applied for the support of the poor of these parishes (Smith's *Hist. of Aberdeenshire*, pp. 462, 1166).

(4) MARY, who married on January 21, 1768, Dr. (afterwards Sir) Alexander Bannerman, Professor of Medicine in King's College, Aberdeen, and had issue (Anderson's *Officers, etc., of King's College*, p. 38). She succeeded to her brother's lands, but soon sold them.

4. MARY, married Skene of Lethintie (*Balb. MS.*, p. 53).

James Gordon, I. of Ardmeallie, died in 1723; for in June, 1723, it was reported to the Kirk Session of Marnoch that "James Gordon of Ardmeallie, lately deceased," had bequeathed 100 merks for the poor of the parish (*Marnoch Session Rec.*).

PETER GORDON, II. OF ARDMEALLIE.

(*Son of I.: died* 1762.)

Peter Gordon, II. of Ardmeallie, was the eldest son of James Gordon of Ardmeallie.

1709. *April* 24.—Peter Gordon of Ardmeallie was one of the heritors of Marnoch (*Marnoch Session Rec.*).

1726. *August* 10.—He had sasine on part of the moss of Tilliedoun (*Banff Sasines*).

1729. *March* 11.—He had sasine on an annualrent of 200 merks out of Haddo in the parish of Forgue (*Sasines*).

1733.—He bought the lands of Barrie in the parish of Marnoch from William Duff of Crombie (*Antiq. Aberd. and Banff*, ii., 426).

1747. *September* 4.—He and his spouse had sasine on a tenement in Portsoy (*Sasines*).

1748. *May* 27.—He was one of those qualified to wear arms after the Jacobite rebellion (*Banffshire Journal*, May 30, 1899).

1750. *March* 20.—The presbytery of Strathbogie visited the school of Marnoch and ascertained that, although they had on February 15, 1749, "recommended all schoolmasters to take particular care that the several schoolhouses should not be alienated to any other purpose than the teaching of youth allenarly, and had ordered every schoolmaster to get an extract of this resolution as a sufficient warrand for them not to give up the schoolhouses for to be used for selling of ale and other abuses at mercats or other publick occasions, which the presbytery understood had been frequently practised, particularly at Marnoch," yet Patrick Gordon of Ordmelly, after being shown a copy of the presbytery's resolution, had by letter demanded from the schoolmaster, John Smith, the keys of the schoolhouse for Marnoch fair on March 6, 1750, and "Mr. Smith still refusing to deliver up the keys, James Gordon, younger of Ordmelly, with several others in company, did on the said day in a violent and riotous manner break open the door both of the schoolhouse and school-chamber, breaking and destroying the seats belonging thereto, and making use of the schoolhouse through that day for selling of ale and other purposes. The presbytery looking upon this as a matter of publick concern . . . and having discoursed with Ordmelly thereanent," resolved that they would, "if he persisted in claiming any property in the said schoolhouse in time coming, take care to guard against any encroachments of the like nature, and this they intimated to him" (*Strathbogie Presb. Rec.*).

He married (1) in 1706 Ann, daughter of Robert Bisset of Lessendrum (Temple's *Fermartyn*, p. 252), by whom he had three children who died young; and (2) Mary, eldest daughter of James Duff of Crombie (Baird's *Duffs*, p. 46), by whom he had:—

1. JAMES, who succeeded to Ardmeallie.
2. ARCHIBALD, who received from his father, on June 30, 1733 (*Sasines*), the lands of Zeuchrie, part of Ardmeallie, but died, unmarried, in September, 1741, before his father. On April 5, 1753, his brother, James, was served heir to him in these lands (*Index of Heirs*), his father having renounced his right in the lands (*Sasines*, September 28, 1753).
3. MARY, who married John Gordon of Avochie, in the parish of Huntly, and died on April 5, 1785, leaving issue (Jervise's *Epitaphs*, ii. 382).
4. HELEN, who married John Innes of Muiryfold, in the parish of Grange, and had no issue.

Peter Gordon, II. of Ardmeallie, died at Ardmeallie in April, 1762 (*Marnoch Session Rec.*).

James Gordon, III. of Ardmeallie.

(*Son of II. : died* 1791.)

James Gordon, III. of Ardmeallie, was the eldest son of Peter Gordon of Ardmeallie. In 1757 he had sasine on February 8 on Ardmeallie, on May 5 on Barrie, and on May 6 on Northfield (*Sasines*).

He married on January 25, 1757, Janet, daughter of John Leith of Leith-Hall (*Scots Mag.*).

He died at Ardmeallie on July 31, 1791 (*Scots Mag.*), and after his death the lands were sold to John Morison, afterwards of Bognie.

THE GORDONS OF COCLARACHIE.

APPENDIX OF DOCUMENTS.

I.

In Dei nomine amen per hoc presens publicum instrumentum cunctis pateat evidenter et sit notum quod anno domini millesimo quingentesimo trigesimo quarto mensis vero Maij [die] decimo octauo Indictione septima pontificatus sanctissimi in Christo patris domini et domini nostri Clementis pape diuini anno vndecimo in notarii publici et testium subscriptorum presentia personaliter constitutus honestus vir Patricius Orum de Cardndavit atturnatus et eo nomine honorabilis domine Jonete Gordoun filie quondam Georgij Gordoun de cujus atturnatus mandato michi notario publico subscripto lucide constabat documento sub data apud Edinbrucht decimo die mensis Aprilis anno regnj supremi domini nostri regis vigesimo quiquidem Patricius Orum atturnatus nominatus quo supra quasdem literas papiro scriptas formam sasine et possessionis in se continentes a nobili et potente domino Jacobo murraue comite ac vicecomite principali de Aberdein sigillo sui officij varrantatas et munitas in medium produxit et presentauit fide digno viro Johanni Bessat vni de maris deputatis vicecomitatus de Aberdein vigore quarum literarum ipsarum Johannem Bessat requisivit quatenus sibi Patricio Orum nominato quo supra statum sasinam et possessionem omnium et singularum terrarum quarte partis terrarum de Kovclairochy cum quarta parte molendini et pertinentiis earundem cum dimedia sexte partis terrarum de Garrye et quarta parte terrarum de Drumdurnotht cum pertinentiis daret et deliberaret secundum vim formam et effectum dictarum literarum dicto maro directarum quasquidem literas per prefatum marum cum reverentia qua decuit receptas michique traditas et intellectas subsequente verborum forma perlegi et ad noticiam circumstantium deduxi James erl of murraif leftenand generall of Scotland and scheref principall of Aberdein to George Bessait mair of fee of the said scherefdoum and to his deputs greiting for samikill as we haif resauit ane precept of our souerane lords chappell charging ws to causs possessioun to be giffin to Jonet Gordoun or hir lauchfull attornay of all and haill the fovrt pairt of the lands of Kovclairoquhy with the fovrt pairt of the myll of the samyn and of the half of the sext pairt of Garry and of the fourt pairt of the lands of Drumdurnotht with thair pertinents as in our souerane lords precept derekit to ws thairapoun mair fullely is contenit of the quhilk precept the tenour follouis Jacobus Dei gratia rex Scotorum

vicecomiti et balliuis suis de Aberdene salutem quia per inquisitionem de mandato nostro per vos factam et ad capellam nostram returnatam compertum est quod quondam Elizabet Wentoun mater Jonete Gordoun latoris presentium obijt vltimo vestita et saisita vt de feodo ad pacem et fidem nostram de totis et integris terris subscriptis cum suis pertinentiis viz. de quarta parte terrarum de Kovclairoquhy cum quarta parte molendini eiusdem et dimedia sexte partis terrarum de Garrye et de quarta parte terrarum de Drumdurnotht cum suis pertinentiis jacentibus in regalitate de Gareacht infra balliuiam westram et quod dicta Joneta est legitima et propinquior heres eiusdem Elizabet matris sue de dictis terris cum quarta parte molendini prenotati cum pertinentiis et quod est legitime etatis et quod de nobis tenetur in capite Vobis precipimus et mandamus quatenus dicte Jonete aut suo certo atturnato latori presentium sasinam predictarum terrarum cum quarta parte dicti molendini cum suis pertinentiis juste habere faciatis sine delatione saluo jure cuilibet capiendo securitatem de lxx libris de fermis dictarum terrarum cum quarta parte dicti molendini cum suis pertinentiis existentium in manibus nostris per spacium septem annorum vltra elapsorum ratione varde que ferme extendentes annuatim ad x libras nobis debite et hoc nullo modo omittatis presentibus post annum minime valituris teste me ipso apud Edinbrucht octauo die mensis aprilis anno regni nostri vigesimo primo We charge you therefor that incontinent thir our lettres sein ye pass with the said Jonet or with hir lachfull attornay to the said fovrt pairt lands of Kuovclarachy with the fort pairt myll of the samyn and to the half sext pairt lands of Garry and to the fovrt pairt lands of Drumdurnotht with thair pertinents and gif till hir or thaim heritabill stait and possessioun of the said lands with thair pertinents saiffand all vthir mens rychts becauss we haif takin ane honourable man Villiam Forbes of crossindavy cautionar and souertie for the byrunning malis of the forsaid lands awand to our souerane lord efter the form of his precept derekit to ws thair-apoun and this on na vaas ye leif ondoun as ye vill ansuyr to ws apoun the executioun of your office the quhilk to do we commyt to you coniunctly and seueraly our full povers be this our precept deliuering the samyn be you devly indorsait and execouit againe to the berar giffin wnder our seall of office at Aberdein the xvi day of Maij in the zer of God ane thousand vc xxxiiij zers Post quarumquidem literarum lecturam prefatus Johannes Bessait marus antedictus accessit ad dictam quartam partem de Kovclarrachy et ibidem super solum earundem per traditionem terre et lapidis ut moris est sasinam et possessionem dictarum terrarum quarte partis de Kovclarachy cum pertinentiis prefato Patricio Orum atturnato nominato quo supra tradidit et deliberauit ipsum Patricium nominatum quo supra in quodam domo dicte quarte partis includens igne extincto habitatoribus expulsis investiuit et inclusit secundario prefatus marus accessit ad quartam partem molendini de Kovclarrochy et in omnibus fecit similiter tertio dictus marus accessit ad dimediam sexte partis de Garry et in omnibus fecit similiter quarto predictus marus accessit ad quartam partem terrarum de Drumdurnotht cum suis pertinentiis et in omnibus fecit similiter et in signum dicte sasine et possessionis antedictus marus elegit sibi bouem vnum nigri coloris cum cornubus albis pertinentem magistro Johanni Smolt tenenti in dicta

quarta parte de Drumdurnotht Super quibus omnibus et singulis prefatus Patricius Orum dum ut premittitur investitus atturnatus nominatus quo supra a me notario publico subscripto sibi fieri petiit instrumentum vnum vel plura publicum vel publica Acta erant hec apud Kovclarrachy et molendinum eiusdem et Garry horis decima et vndecima ante meridiem vel eo circa et apud Drumdurnacht hora quarta post meridiem aut eo circa sub anno die mense indictione et pontificatu quibus supra Presentibus ibidem discretis et honestis viris magistro Johanne Gordoun Johanne Maky Johanne Covbayn Georgio Leslie Patricio Dauistoun magistro Johanne Smolt testibus ad premissa vocatis pariterque rogatis.

Et ego Willelmus Dauidsoun presbyter Aberdonensis diocesis sancta apostolica auctoritate notarius publicus quia etc.

Abstract of I.

Instrument of sasine attesting that on May 18, 1534, Patrick Orum of Cardndavit as "attorney for Jonet Gordoun, daughter of the late George Gordoun," produced letters from James, Earl of Moray, Sheriff Principal of Aberdeen, containing Crown precept of sasine which enjoined sasine to be given to Jonet Gordoun, as legitimate and nearest heir of Elizabeth Wentoun, her mother, of the fourth part of Kovclairoquhy with the mill of the same, of the half of the sixth part of Garrye, and of the fourth part of Drumdurnotht, and stating that William Forbes of Crossindavy had become security for £70 Scots, feuduties resting for seven years; and that accordingly John Bessat, one of the mairs of Aberdeen, gave sasine in presence of Mr. John Gordoun, John Maky, John Covbayn, George Leslie, Patrick Davistoun and Mr. John Smolt; the notary being William Davidsoun.

On the outside of the Instrument is this note:—"23 Junij, 1554 product. et admiss. in assisa," *i.e.*, "23 June, 1554, produced and admitted in an assize"—evidently the assize at which Alexander Forbes was found heir to his mother, Jonet Gordon.

II.

In Dei nomine amen per hoc presens publicum instrumentum cunctis pateat evidenter et sit notum quod anno incarnationis dominice millesimo quingentesimo sexagesimo mensis vero Februarij die decimo Indictione quarta pontificatus Pij pape quarti anno secundo in mei notarii publici et testium subscriptorum presentiis personaliter constitutus honestus vir Georgius Gordoun hereditarius de Blairrendenny habens et tenens suis in manibus quandam cartam alienationis pergameno scriptam cum precepto huiusmodi sasine sub sigillo et subscriptione manuali honesti viri Alexandri Forbes sigillatam et subscriptam sibi Georgio Gordoun suisque heredibus et assignatis de et super totis et integris quarte partis omnium et singularum terrarum de Cokclaroquhy quarte partis ville et terrarum de Nevbiging quarte partis crofte de Futty vnacum duabus bovatis terrarum de Garry ac etiam quarte partis molendini de Cokclaroquhy nuncupati molendini de Ryalbain cum terris molendinariis et astrictis multuris omnium et singularum predictarum terrarum cum universis suis

pertinentiis jacentibus in dominio de Drumblait et infra [vicecomitatum de Aberdeen] per prefatum Alexandrum Forbes factam et concessam quamquidem cartam vnacum precepto sasine discreto viro Andrea Makie balliuo in hac parte dicti Allexandri Forbes et in huiusmodi precepto specialiter nominato exhibuit et presentauit quiquidem balliuus dictam cartam cum precepto huiusmodi in manibus suis recepit et mihi notario subscripto deliberauit . . . quodquidem preceptum perlegi et exposui cuius tenor sequitur subsequenti verborum forma Allexander Forbes portionarius de Cokclaroquhy dilectis meis . . . coniunctim et diuisim balliuis meis in hac parte specialiter et irrevocabiliter constitutis salutem Quia vendidi et alienavi hereditarie . . . Cokclaroquhy suis heredibus et assignatis totam et integram quartam partem meam omnium et singularum terrarum et molendini subscriptarum viz. quartam partem ville et terrarum de Cokclaroquhy . . . mando quatenus sasinam et possessionem hereditariam . . . prefato Georgio Gordoun suis heredibus et assignatis . . . tradatis . . . sigillum meum proprium est appensum apud Aberdeen septimo die . . . Presentibus ibidem . . . Gordoun in Cokclarroquhy Jacobo . . . ibidem Wilhelmo Bisset ibidem et Johanne . . . in Balquharne testibus ad premissa vocatis . . .

Et ego vero magister Johannes Grey clericus, etc.

Abstract of II.

Instrument of sasine attesting that on February 10, 1560, "George Gordoun, hereditary proprietor of Blairrendenny" produced a charter of sale with precept of sasine, dated at Aberdeen February 7, 1560, by "Alexander Forbes, portioner of Cokclaroquhy," and received sasine in "the fourth part of the town and lands of Cokclaroquhy, the fourth part of the town and lands of Newbiging, the fourth part of the croft of Futty, with the two oxgangs of the lands of Garry, as also the fourth part of the Mill of Cokclaroquhy, commonly called the Mill of Ryalbane . . . lying within the barony of Drumblait and county of Aberdeen"; in presence of . . . Gordoun in Cokclaroquhy, James . . . there, William Bisset there, and John . . . in Balquharne; the notary being John Grey.

The instrument is to a large extent illegible through damp. The charter of sale of February 7, 1560, was confirmed under the Great Seal on March 16, 1615 (*Reg. Mag. Sig.*).

III.

In Dei nomine amen. Per hoc presens publicum instrumentum cunctis pateat evidenter et sit notum quod anno incarnationis dominice millesimo quingentesimo octuagesimo septimo mensis vero Decembris die secundo ac regni S.D.N. Jacobi sexti Dei gratia Scotorum regis anno. . . . In mei notarii publici et testium subscriptorum presentiis personaliter comparuit Georgius Gordoune de Coclerathie tenens et habens suis in manibus quandam cartam nobilis et potentis domini Georgii Gordoune comitis de Huntlie etc. preceptum sasine in fine eiusdem continentem

sigillo et subscriptione manuali dicti domini Georgii Comitis de Huntlie roboratam de data infrascripta per eundem dominum Comitem confectam datam et concessam dicto Georgio Gordoune de Coclerathie heredibus suis et assignatis de et super totis et integris [terris] quarte partis ville et terrarum de Coclerathie quarte partis de Newbiging crofte de Futtie et quarte partis molendini de Coclerathie nuncupati lie Myll de Ryalbane et quarte partis multurarum omnium et singularum predictarum terrarum et quarte partis silue et nemorum et quarte partis lie Cruikhaiches ex boriale partis aque de Bogy jacentis occupate per Joannem Strachin cum universis et singulis suis pertinentiis jacentibus infra dominium de Drumblet et vicecomitatum de Abirden provido viro Jacobo Duncan de Merdrem balliuo dicti domini Georgii Comitis de Huntlie in hac parte virtute dicti precepti specialiter constituto exhibuit et presentauit Quamquidem cartam preceptum sasine in fine eiusdem continentem prefatus balliuus ad manus recepit et mihi notario publico [subscripto] ad perlegendam publicandam et interpretandam contulit quam ego etiam ab eodem recipiens eandem . . . alta et intelligibili voce perlegi et in vulgari nostro idiomate exposui et publicavi cuiusquidem precepti in fine dicte carte [contenti] tenor sequitur et est talis Insuper Jacobo Duncane de Merdrem balliuis nostris coniunctim et diuisim presentium tenore irreuocabiliter constitutis precipimus et firmiter mandamus quatenus vos seu vestrum aliquis ad prefatas terras et molendinum accedat et ibidem per terre et lapidis fundi lie clap et happer vt moris donationem statum sasinam et possessionem hereditariam realem actualem et corporalem totarum et integrarum illarum quarteriarum seu quarte partis ville et terrarum de Coclerathie [etc. as above] prefato Georgio Gordoune de Bleirdenie suis heredibus et assignatis vel ejus procuratori presentium latori juxta formam prescripte carte in omnibus et per omnia indilate tradatis vel tradat ad quod faciendum nostram plenariam et irreuocabilem tenore presentium potestatem In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti carte preceptum sasine in se continenti manu nostra vt sequitur subscripte sigillum nostrum proprium est appensum apud Essilmont vigesimo die mensis Novembris anno domini millesimo quingentesimo octuagesimo septimo coram his testibus domino Patricio Gordoune de Auchindoun milite Jacobo Abircromby et magistro Francisco Cheyne de Crage et sic subscribitur George Erll of Huntlie Post cuiusquidem precepti lecturam et publicationem vt supra dictus Georgius Gordoune dictum Jacobum Duncane balliuum antedictum humiliter et cum instantia requisivit etc. . . . et in signum huiusmodi possessionis dictus balliuus sibi elegit unam bouem arabilem nigri coloris cornuatam et appretiari fecit ad nouem liberas pecuniarum huius regni super quibus etc. . . . Acta erant hec etc. . . . Presentibus ibidem Joanne Strachin in Balquharne Joanne Lyonne in Gerrie Wilhelmo Wat in Coclerathie Joanne Reidfurd illicdem Joanne Micheall illicdem et Joanne Gordoune seruitore dicti Jacobi Duncan de Merdrem testibus ad premissa rogatis pariterque vocatis.

Et ego vero Georgius Cheyne clericus diocesis Aberdonensis regali auctoritate notarius publicus etc.

ABSTRACT OF III.

Instrument of sasine attesting that on December 2, 1587, "George Gordoune of Coclerachie" produced a charter (with precept of sasine) by George, Earl of Huntly, in favour of said George Gordoune—which precept describes the lands as "the fourth part of the town and lands of Coclerachie, the fourth part of Newbiging and croft of Futtie, and the fourth part of the mill of Coclerachie now called myll of Ryalbane, with the mill lands, and the fourth part of the multures of the forsaid lands, of the wood and groves, and the fourth part of Cruikit Haiches lying on the north side of the water of Bogy occupied by John Strachin," and enjoins sasine to be given to "George Gordoune of Bleirdenie," and was signed and sealed at Essilmonth on November 20, 1587, before Sir Patrick Gordoune of Auchindoun, James Abircromby and Mr. Francis Cheyne of Crage—and that sasine was given by James Duncan of Merdrem, in presence of John Strachin in Balquharne, John Lyonne in Gerrie, William Wat in Coclerachie, John Reidfurd there, John Micheall there, and John Gordoune, servant to the said James Duncan of Merdrum; the notary being George Cheyne.

IV.

Omnibus hanc cartam visuris vel audituris Georgius Marchio de Huntlie Dominus de Enzie et de Gordoun et Badzenot hereditarius proprietarius terrarum aliorumque infrascriptorum Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Quia virtute cuiusdem contractus initi et confecti inter nos cum consensu et assensu nobilis et potentis principis Ludovici Lennocie ducis Comitis de Dernelie Domini de Tarbolton Methuen et Aubignay et Georgii domini Gordoun et Francisci Gordoun filiorum nostrorum pro eorum interesse super terras aliaque subscripta ab vna et Georgium Gordoun de Coclarachie et Elizabetham alias Bessie Duncan ejus sponsam partibus ab altera pro summa sex millium marcarum vsualis monete regni Scotie nobis per dictum Georgium Gordoun gratanter et integre persoluta predictum Georgium et dictam ejus sponsam heredes suos et assignatos in terris aliisque subscriptis modo subsequente infeodare tenemur prout in dicto contractu de data presentium latius continetur Noveritis igitur nos cum consensu et assensu personarum suprascriptarum dedisse concessisse vendidisse alienasse et hac presenti carta nostra confirmasse . . . memoratis Georgio Gordoun et Elizabethe alias Bessie Duncan ejus sponse eorumque alteri diutius viventi in conjuncta infeodatione et heredibus masculis dicti Georgii Gordoun et assignatis quibuscunque hereditarie totas et integras terras nostras tres quarterias seu quartas partes davate terrarum de Coclarachie viz. ville de Coclarachie et crofte vocate crofte de Futtye terrarum de Newbiging et Lytle Mylne et tres quarterias nostras molendini de Coclarachie molendini de Ryalebane nuncupati terrarum molendinariarum multurarum et sequelorum eiusdem cum omnibus et singulis earundem domibus . . . jacentes infra vicecomitatum de Aberdene vnacum decimis garbalibus dictarum trium quarteriarum. . . . Tenendas et habendas totas et integras prefatas tres quarterias . . . de me heredibus meis

masculis et assignatis . . . Reddendo inde . . . vsualis monete regni Scotie . . . Et nos vero prefatus Georgius Marchio de Huntlie . . . prefatas tres quarterias . . . contra omnes mortales varrantizabimus . . . Insuper dilectis meis Johanni Leyth in Bucharne et vestrum cuilibet . . . In cujus rei testimonium huic carte nostre ex chirographo magistri Roberti Bissat scribe manu nostra subscripte sigillum nostrum est appensum apud Huntlye vigesimo primo die mensis Maij anno domini millesimo sexcentesimo decimo septimo coram his testibus Hugone Gordoun de Cultis Patricio Mortimer filio quondam Johannis Mortimer de Cragivar Johanne Andersone in Dunbennan et dicto Magistro Roberto Bissat.

To the charter this note is appended:—

Sasina data 23 Maij 1617 per Johannem Leyth in Bucharne balivum Hugoni Gordoun attornato dictarum terrarum inter septimam et octauam matutinam presentibus ibidem Alexandro Pyrie Gulielmo Gallan Alexandro Gib in Coclarachie et Alexandro Laird servitore dicti Georgii testibus ad premissa vocatis et rogatis.

M. R. Bisset, notarius publicus.

Abstract of IV.

Charter by George, Marquis of Huntly, in favour of George Gordoun of Coclarachie and Elisabeth, alias Bessie, Duncan, his spouse, of the three fourth parts of the davach lands of Coclarachie, in implement of a contract of sale of same date whereby the said Marquis sold the said lands for 6,000 merks to said George Gordon and his spouse, reserving power of redemption. The charter is signed and sealed at Huntlye May 21, 1617, in presence of Hugh Gordon of Cultis, Patrick Mortimer son of the late John Mortimer of Cragivar, John Andersone in Dunbennan, and Mr. Robert Bissat writer of the charter.

V.

Omnibus hanc cartam visuris vel audituris Georgius Gordoune de Coclarachie hereditarius proprietarius terrarum aliorumque subscriptorum salutem in Domino sempiternam. Quia virtute cujusdem obligationis per me factae datae et concessae dilectae meae Bessetae alias Elizabethe Duncan meae sponsae pro causis in eadem contentis ipsam in vitali redditu pro toto tempore vitae suae in terris aliisque subscriptis modo subsequente infeodare teneor prout in dicta obligatione de data apud Colpnay septimo die mensis Julii anno domini millesimo sexcentesimo decimo septimo latius continetur Noveritis igitur me dedisse concessisse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse . . . memoratae Elizabethe alias Bessie Duncan meae sponsae in vitali redditu pro toto tempore vitae suae totam et integram meam quarteriam seu quartam partem davatae terrarum de Coclarachie viz. . . . jacentem in baronia de Drumblait infra vicecomitatum de Aberdeen Tenendam et habendam . . . Insuper dilectis meis . . . In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti cartae preceptum sasinae in se continenti ex chirographo Magistri Roberti Bisset scribae manu mea subscriptae

sigillum meum est appensum apud Coclarachie octauo die mensis Augusti anno domini millesimo sexcentesimo decimo septimo coram his testibus Alexandro Gordoun in Mairdrum meo filio Johanne Gordoun in . . . ismilne et dicto Magistro Roberto Bisset.

Alexr Gordoun vitns
Jhon Gordoun vitnes

George gordoune
of Coclarachye
M. R. Bisset witnes

ABSTRACT OF V.

Charter by which George Gordon of Coclarachie, being bound, by an obligation dated at Colpnay, July 7, 1617, to infeft his beloved spouse, Bessie Duncan, in certain lands in liferent, grants to the said Bessie Duncan his fourth part of the lands of Coclarachie in liferent. The charter is signed at Coclarachie August 8, 1617, in presence of Alexander Gordoun in Mairdrum, his son, John Gordoun in . . . and Mr Robert Bisset, writer of the charter.

VI.

Omnibus hanc cartam visuris vel audituris Georgius Gordoun de Coclarachie proprietarius terrarum molendinorum aliorumque subscriptorum eternam in Domino Salutem. Quia virtute contractus matrimonialis initi et confecti inter me pro me ipso et onus in me pro Georgio Gordoun nepote meo suscipientem et dictum Georgium Gordoun juniorem pro se ipso suoque interesse cum consensu Alexandri Gordoun de Merdrum et Magistri Gulielmi Gordoun medicine doctoris curatorum prefati Georgii Gordoun junioris pro eorum interesse dictumque Alexandrum Gordoun de Merdrum pro se ipso jure et titulo suo ab vna et Alexandrum Setoun de Petmedden pro se et onus in eum pro Griselda Setoun filia eius legittima [suscipientem] dictamque Griseldam pro se et suo interesse partibus ab altera de data presentium teneor et astringor prefatum Georgium Gordoun juniorem in villis terris molendinis aliisque subscriptis modo et forma infra designatis infeodare Noveritis igitur me dictum Georgium Gordoun de Coclarachie pro perimpletione illius partis dicti contractus matrimonialis penes hoc infeofamentum conficiendum et intuitu dicti matrimonii secundum formam eiusdem contractus dedisse concessisse alienasse et hac presenti carta mea confirmasse . . . dicto Georgio Gordoun nepoti meo et heredibus masculis inter eum et prefatam Griseldam Setoun procreandis quibus deficientibus dicto Georgio Gordoun juniori et heredibus suis masculis et assignatis quibuscumque omnes et singulas villas et terras meas de Overblairtoun alias vocato Colpnay ad boream cum pendiculo eiusdem vocato Vastburne cum molendino jam pridem super terris de Overblairtoun edificato cum terris molendinariis multuris sequelis croftis et pertinentiis earundem villam et terras de Pettens cum omnibus earundem domibus . . . jacentes infra baroniam de Baheluie et vicecomitatum de Aberdeen Reservando Jeanne Gordoun domine de Crag vitalem

suum redditum terrarum de Pettens cum pertinentiis et dimedii pendiculi terrarum de Wastburne juxta titulo quem de iisdem habet (sine periculo vitalis redditus dicte Griselde Setoun terrarum de Overblairtoun molendini eiusdem et alterius medii pendiculi de Wastburne et croftarum eedem dispositarum virtute dicti contractus) necnon totam et integram quartam partem lie Davauche landis de Coclarachie viz. . . . jacentem infra baroniam de Drumblaitt et vicecomitatum antedictum necnon alias tres quartas partes meas dictarum terrarum vocatarum Davauch landis de Coclarachie viz. . . . jacentes infra dictum vicecomitatum de Aberdeen . . . Reservando tamen mihi et Bessete Duncan mee sponse vitales nostros redditus totius dicte ville et terrarum vocatarum the Davache landis de Coclarachie . . . Et ego vero dictus Georgius Gordoun de Coclarachie heredes mei . . . omnes et singulas predictas terras . . . (exceptis vitalibus redditibus dicte Jeanne Gordoun et Griselde Setoun et annuo redditu dicto Alexandro Gordoun trecentarum marcarum spectantibus et exceptis vitali meo redditu et predicte mee conjugis terrarum suprascriptarum cum pertinentiis vt premissum est) contra omnes mortales warrantizabimus . . . Insuper dilectis meis . . . In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti carte mee preceptum sasine in se continenti manu Magistri Gulielmi Barclay advocati scripte manu mea subscripte sigillum meum proprium armorum est appensum apud Coclarachie decimo septimo die mensis Maii anno domini millesimo sexcentesimo vigesimo nono coram his testibus Magistro Roberto Bisset de Lessindrum Alexandro Gordoun de Mardrom Johanne Jessiman meo servitore et Magistro Roberto Petrie scriba.

Alex^r Gordoun Vitnes — George gordoune

M. R. Bisset witness — M. Robert Petrie witness

Jhon Jessiman vitnes

Abstract of VI.

Charter by which George Gordoun of Coclarachie (in implement of a marriage contract of same date between himself and his grandson George Gordoun, with consent of Alexander Gordoun of Merdrum and Mr William Gordoun, doctor of medicine, as curators of said George Gordoun, junior, on the one part, and Alexander Setoun of Petmedden and his daughter, Grissell Setoun, on the other part) grants to George Gordoun, his grandson, "the town and lands of Overblairtoun otherwise called Colpnay on the north with the pendicle of the same called Vastburne, with the mill . . . and the town and lands of Pettens . . . lying within the barony of Baheluie and county of Aberdeen (Reserving to Jean Gordoun, lady of Crag, her liferent of the lands of Pettens . . .), as also the fourth part of the davauche lands of Coclarachie . . . as also the other three fourth parts of said davauch lands of Coclarachie . . . (Reserving to himself and his spouse, Bessie Duncan, their liferents of said davauch lands of Coclarachie)." The charter was written by Mr William Barclay, advocate, and signed at Coclarachie May 17, 1629, in presence of Mr Robert Bisset of Lessindrum, Alexander Gordoun of Mardrom, John Jessiman, servant to George Gordoun, senior, and Mr Robert Petrie, writer.

VII.

Omnibus hanc cartam visuris vel audituris Georgius Gordone de Coclarachie hereditarius proprietarius terrarum aliorumque subscriptorum eternam in domino salutem. Noveritis me pro observatione certe partis literarum dispositionis per me Grissille Settone mee conjugi in vitali redditu durantibus omnibus sue vite diebus de data presentium factarum datarum et concessarum proque causis onerosis inibi expressis assedasse . . . prefate Grissille Settone mee conjugi in vitali redditu durantibus omnibus sue vite diebus totam et integram quartam partem ville et terrarum de Coclarachie quartam partem ville et terrarum de Newbigging quartam partem crofte de Futtie cum duabus davatis terrarum de Garrie ac quartam partem molendini de Coclarachie nunc vocatum molendinum de Ryalban cum terris molendinariis . . . jacentes infra dominium de Drumblait et vicecomitatum de Aberdein ad me hereditarie spectantes necnon totas et integras meas alias tres quarterias seu quartas partes dictarum terrarum de Coclarachie crofte de Futtie Newbigging et molendini de Coclarachie . . . jacentes vt supra. . . . Insuper dilectis meis . . . In cujus rei testimonium huic presenti carte mee manu Andree Massie notarii publici scripte manuque mea subscripte sigillum meum proprium armorum est appensum apud Aberdein decimo quinto die mensis Decembris anno domini millesimo sexcentesimo quadragesimo tertio coram his testibus magistro Alexandro Davidsone advocato Richardo Rutherfuird burgensi burgi de Aberdein et Andrea Massie predicto.

Abstract of VII.

Charter by which George Gordon of Coclarachie (in implement of letters of disposition of same date) grants to Grissell Seton, his spouse, his fourth part of Coclarachie and also the other three fourth parts, in liferent. The charter was signed at Aberdeen, December 15, 1643, in presence of Mr. Alexander Davidson, advocate, Richard Rutherfuird, burgess of Aberdeen, and Andrew Massie, notary, writer of the charter.

VIII.

Omnibus hanc cartam visuris vel audituris Georgius Gordoune de Cocklarachie hereditarius proprietarius terrarum molendini aliorumque subscriptorum salutem in domino sempiternam. Noveritis me pro perimpletione mee partis cuiusdam contracti matrimonialis inter me ab vna et Elizabetam Fraser relictam quondam Willielmi Meldrum de Haltoune ab altera partibus de data presentium initi et confecti virtute cuiusquidam contracti dictam Elizabetam Fraser in vitali redditu et pro omnibus sue vite diebus in terris molendino aliisque subscriptis modo subsequente infeodare teneor igitur dedisse . . . prefate Elizabete Fraser . . . totas et integras tres quarterias davate terrarum de Cocklarachie viz. . . . ac etiam totam et integram illam

alteram quarteriam seu quartam partem dicte ville et terrarum de Cocklarachie . . . tanquam principales necnon totas et integras villas et terras de Altoune et Newtoune de Monedies terras et villam de Whytmuire terras et villam de Muireailhous villas et terras de Myresyde et villas et terras de Carnehills . . . omnes jacentes infra parochiam de Aberchirder et vicecomitatum de Banff et hoc in speciale varrantum et securitatem dicte Elizabete Fraser . . . In cujus rei testimonium presentibus (per Patricium Fraserum scribam Edinburgi scriptis) manu mea subscriptis sigillum meum est appensum apud Fraserburghe die mensis tredecimo Decembris anno domini millesimo sexcentesimo quadragesimo quinto coram his testibus Alexandro Frasero de Philorth Joanne Fraser de Pittulie Joanne Baird clerico vicecomitatus de Banff et dicto Patricio Frasero testibus ad premissa vocatis rogatis et requisitis.

Abstract of VIII.

Charter by which George Gordoune of Cocklarachie (being bound by a matrimonial contract of same date between himself and Elizabeth Fraser, relict of the late William Meldrum of Haltoun, to infeft the said Elizabeth in the liferent of certain lands) grants to said Elizabeth Fraser in liferent the three fourth parts of the davach lands of Cocklarachie . . . and also the other fourth part . . . as the principal lands, and also, as warrandice lands, "the towns and lands of Altoune and Newtoune of Monedies, the town and lands of Whytmuire, the town and lands of Muireailhous, the towns and lands of Myresyde, and the towns and lands of Carnehills . . . all lying within the parish of Aberchirder and county of Banff". The charter was signed at Fraserburgh, December 13, 1645, in presence of Alexander Fraser of Philorth, John Fraser of Pittulie, John Baird, sheriff clerk of Banff, and Patrick Fraser, writer, Edinburgh, writer of the charter.

IX.

In Dei nomine amen. Per hoc presens publicum instrumentum cunctis pateat evidenter et sit notum quod anno incarnationis dominice millesimo sexcentesimo sexagesimo quarto mensis vero Maii die vigesimo quarto regnique S. D. N. Caroli secundi Dei gratia Magne Britanie Francie et Hibernie regis illustrissimi fideique defensoris anno decimo sexto In mei notarii publici ac testium subscriptorum presentia in fundis terrarum molendini terrarum molendinariarum aliorumque subtusscriptorum personaliter comparuit Petrus Chalmer servitor Elisabethe Fraser domine de Cocklarachie procurator pro et nomine Issabelle Meldrum filie legittime quondam Willielmi Meldrum aliquando de Haltoun habens et tenens suis in manibus quendam contractum matrimonialem initum et confectum inter Johannem Forbes de Asloune pro seipso et onus in se suscipientem pro Willielmo Forbes ejus filio legittimo natu maximo et dictum Willielmum Forbes pro seipso cum speciali consensu memorati Johannis Forbes sui patris et utrumque cum uno consensu et assensu

ab vna et dictam Issabellam Meldrum ab altera partibus de data apud Cocklarachie sexto die Maii proximo elapso Quis contractus continet preceptum sasine subinsertum in fine ejusdem. . . . Quemquidem contractum . . . prefatus Petrus Chalmer. . . . Waltero Forbes de Blacktoun balivo in hac parte per dictum preceptum specialiter constituto presentavit . . . cujus precepti sasine saltem partis hujus in favorem dicte Issabelle tenor sequitur et est talis And for infefting of the said Isabell Meldrum in her conjunct fee and warrandice lands particularlie aboverehearsed, the said John Forbes, elder of Asloun hes made . . . Walter Forbes of Blacktoun . . . his baillies in that pairt requyring and desyring them . . . to passe . . . and give and deliver . . . possession of the saids ten chalders victuall besyds the customes (reserving two chalders of the saids ten in maner abovementioned) yeirlie to be uplifted foorth of the saids tounes and lands of Dorrisaill, the Muir Badinapeat, the croft called the Brigend of Alfoord and of that pleughe of the Maynes called the Overtoun, and in speciall warrandice of the samen, of so much rent foorth of the saids lands and Maynes of Asloun and miln of the samen with the miln . . . as will be answerable and equivalent to any prejudice or distres the said William Forbes or Issabell Meldrum his said future spous shall sustayne during her lyfetyme through want of any pairt or portioun of her lyferent lands abovewritten, to the said Issabell Meldrum. . . . In witnes whereoff both the saids parties have subscribed thir presents with their hands (writtin be Alexander Cuie, servitor to Robert Sharp, shereff clerk of Banff) day yeir and place forsaids befor thir witnesses Adam Forbes late tutor of Brux and John Forbes and James Miln servitors to the said Elisabeth Fraser. . . . Post cujusquidem contractus . . . perlecturam etc. . . . Coram his testibus Roberto Forbes filio legittimo dicti Johannis Forbes de Asloun Petro Taylior in Asloun Willielmo Greinlaw servitore dicti Willielmi Forbes et Waltero Innes servitore dicti Walteri Forbes de Blacktoun et diversis aliis ad premissa rogatis et requisitis.

Ego vero Walterus Simson clericus Aberdonensis diocesis . . . notarius publicus etc.

Abstract of IX.

Instrument of sasine attesting that on May 24, 1664, Peter Chalmer, servant of Elisabeth Fraser, lady of Cocklarachie, as procurator for Issabella Meldrum, lawful daughter of the late William Meldrum of Haltoun, produced a matrimonial contract (dated at Cocklarachie, May 6, 1664) between John Forbes of Asloune and William Forbes, his eldest lawful son, on the one part, and the said Issabella Meldrum, on the other part, by which she is to be liferented in ten chalders victuall of Dorrisaill, Muir Badinapeat, the croft called the Brigend of Alfoord, and of that pleughe of the Mayns called the Overtoun, and in special warrandice, in so much rent of the Mains of Asloun and mill thereof as will be equivalent to any prejudice sustained by want of any part of her liferent lands; and that Walter Forbes of Blacktoun, as bailie, gave sasine in common form, in presence of Robert Forbes, lawful son of said John

Forbes of Asloun, Peter Taylor in Asloun, William Greinlaw servant of said William Forbes, Walter Innes servant of said Walter Forbes of Blacktoun, and other witnesses; the notary being Walter Simson.

X.

In Dei nomine amen. Per hoc presens publicum instrumentum cunctis pateat evidenter et sit notum quod anno incarnationis dominice millesimo sexcentesimo septuagesimo nono mensis vero Decembris die decimo sexto et anno regni S. D. N. Caroli secundi Dei gratia Magne Britannie Francie et Hibernie regis fideique defensoris trigesimo primo In mei notarii publici subscribentis et testium subscriptorum presentiis personaliter comparuit egregius vir Georgius Keith de Northfeild tanquam actornatus et in nomine Anne Baird filie legitime honorabilis viri domini Jacobi Baird de Auchmedden militis et sponse apparentis honorabilis etiam viri Johannis Gordon de Cocklarachie . . . et accessit unacum discreto viro Johanne Symson in Cocklarachie balivo in hac parte dictorum Johannis Gordon et Elizabethe Fraser domine de Cocklarachie ejus matris per preceptum sasine subscriptum ad effectum subtusmentionatum specialiter constituto ad solum et fundum terrarum aliorumque subscriptorum habens et suis in manibus tenens quendam contractum matrimonialem initum et confectum inter dictum Johannem Gordon cum speciali avisamento et consensu dicte Elizabethe Fraser sue matris pro omni jure vitalis redditus. . . . et dictam Elizabetham pro seipsa et eos unanimi consensu et assensu ab una et dictum dominum Jacobum Baird et Jacobum Baird de Auchmedden juniorem ejus filium legitimum natu maximum pro seipsis et onus in se suscipientes pro dicta Anna Baird et eandem Annam pro seipsa cum dicti sui patris et fratris consensu partibus ab altera datum apud Auchmedden et Cocklarachie tertio et decimo quinto diebus mensis Decembris instantis virtute cujus contractus dicti Johannes Gordon et Elizabetha Fraser contemplatione matrimonii tunc contracti brevique (Deo juvante) solemnizandi inter dictum Johannem Gordon et Annam Baird dictam Annam in conjuncta infeodatione et vitali redditu durantibus omnibus sue vite diebus in totis et integris terris aliisque subscriptis viz. . . . infeodare tenentur . . . quemquidem contractum matrimonialem preceptum sasine in se continentem dictus Georgius Keith . . . dicto Johanni Symson . . . exhibuit et presentavit . . . cujus precepti sasine tenor sequitur et est talis Attoure to the effect the said Anna Baird may be infeft and saised in the lands and uthers abovewriten . . . the said John Gordon and Elizabeth Fraser . . . hes made and constitute . . . John Symson in Cocklarachie . . . their balzies in that part commanding and requiring them . . . to passe and give and deliver state and saising . . . off all and haill the said two pleughes off land off the mayns off Cocklarachie, the pleughe off land off Meikletowne, the towne and lands off Fittie, the towne and lands off Coulles and haughe bewest the water off Bogie, the pleughe off land off Litlemilne with the newmilne off Cocklarachie milnelands multurs and sequelles theroff, the two crofts besyde the stainiewarde and Broomhill croft . . . to the said Anna Baird in lyffrent . . . reserving alwayes to the said Elizabeth Fraser

her lyffrent off the said pleughe off land off Litlemilne, milne and milnelands off Cocklarachie, two crofts besyde the staniewarde and Broomhill croft. . . . In witnesse wheroff thir presents (written be John Urquhart servitor to the said Sir James Baird) are subscryved be bothe the saids parties with ther hands place day moneth and year off God respective abovewriten before thir witnesses Alexander master off Salton Alexander Bisset off Lessindrum James Gordon off Ardmellie William Symson notar publick in Turreff and the said John Urquhart George Keith off Northfield James Baird sone lawful to the said James Baird and John Symson servitor to the said John Gordon. . . . Presentibus ibidem Roberto Duncan in Boigheid Johanne Young Thoma Skinner Georgio Mill Alexandro Browster et Johanne Ogston in Cocklarachie testibus ad premissa rogatis et requisitis.

Et ego vero Gulielmus Symson clericus Aberdonensis diocesis notarius publicus etc.

Abstract of X.

Instrument of sasine attesting that on December 16, 1679, George Keith of Northfield, as procurator for Anna Baird, daughter of Sir James Baird of Auchmedden, produced a matrimonial contract (dated at Auchmedden and Coclarachie December 3 and 15, 1679, and witnessed as above) between John Gordon of Coclarachie and his mother, Elizabeth Fraser, on the one part, and Sir James Baird of Auchmedden, and James Baird, junior of Auchmedden, his eldest lawful son, and Anna Baird, on the other part, whereby the said John Gordon bound himself to infeft the said Anna Baird, his apparent spouse, in liferent in certain lands of Coclarachie; and that John Symson in Cocklarachie, as bailie, gave sasine in common form in presence of Robert Duncan in Boigheid, John Young, Thomas Skinner, George Mill, Alexander Browster and John Ogston in Cocklarachie; the notary being William Symson.

XI.

Marriage Contract between Alexander Leslie of Little Wartle and Janet Gordon, September 26, 1696.

At Coclarachie, September 26, 1696 years, it is aggreed finally ended and matrimonially contracted betwixt the parties following they are to say Alexander Lessly of Litle Wartle as haveing the undoubted heretable right of the lands and others underwrytten with the pertinents for himself on the one pairt and Mris. Jannet Gordone sister german to John Gordone of Coclarachie her brother for herself with his consent and he as takeing the sole burden on him for her and also with the speciall advyce and consent of Alexander Gordone of Auchintoule and James Gordone of Ardmeallie her other two brothers on the other pairt in manner . . . following . . . In contemplatione of whilk marriage . . . the said John Gordone be thir presents binds . . . him . . . to . . . pay . . . to the said Alexander Lessley . . .

the soume of three thousand merks . . . whilk soume . . . are accepted . . . in full contentatione and satisfactione to them of all bonds of provisione bairns pairt of gear deads third or other provisione naturall that they or ayther of them can ask or crave anie manner of way from the said John Gordone be or throw his deceis or be deceis of umquhill George Gordone of Coclarachie his father or umquhill Elizabeth Fraser his mother or be deceis of Charles Gordone his brother or ani wayes whatsomever . . . In witness wherof both the saids parties have subscribed thir presents with their hands (written be James Gordon second sone to William Gordone of Westseat) day moneth place and year of God abovewritten befor thir witnesses, Mr James Lessly eldest lawfull sone to Mr Alexander Lessly minister at Croill and the said William and James Gordone wrytter heirof.

XII.

Marriage contract between James Lunan and Anna Gordon, May 29 and 30, 1712.

At Logie and Culclarachie the twenty nynt and threttie day of May respective sevintein hundreth and tuelve yeires it is apoynted matrimonially contracted . . . betuixt the pairties following they are to say Master James Lunend eldest lawfull son to Master Alexander Lunend preacher of the Gospell att Daviot heretable proprietour of the lands teinds and others vnderwritten with advyce and consent of his said father and of Janet Elphingstoun his mother for all ryght of lyfrent . . . and the said Master Alexander Lunend as taikand burden on him for his said son and spous abovenamed and they all with one consent on the ane pairt and Mris. Anna Gordon second lawfull dochter to John Gordon of Culclarachie for herself with consent of her said father and he taikand burden in and upon him for his said dochter and they both with one consent on the other pairt in maner . . . following . . . in contemplation of quhilk marriage . . . the said Master Alexander Lunend . . . binds . . . him to . . . saise the said Master James Lunend his eldest lawfull son and the said Mris. Ann Gordon his futur spous . . . in the westsyd of the lands of Kirktown of Daviot . . . and also . . . in the eastsyd of the said Kirktown of Daviot . . . lying within the parochen of Daviot and sherefdom of Aberdeen as also the libertie of ane weikly mercatt to be holden att the said Kirktown of Daviot and of ane yeirly fair or mercatt ther to be holden at St. Colme's day . . . Attoure . . . the said Master Alexander Lunen hes made . . . Alexander Gordon of Caldwells . . . his baillies in that pairt . . . In witness wheroff both the saids parties have subscribed thir presents with ther hands (written be William Gordon of Westseat) day moneth places and yeir of God abovewritten befor thir witnesses . . . Sir James Elphingstoun of Logie Patrick Lunen lawfull son to the said Mr Alexander Lunen . . . Sir Samuel Forbes of Foveran Robert Crookshank gardner at Culclarachie and the said William Gordon wryter forsaid.